

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN BARANGAY POLLS

By Cyril L. Bonabente  
and Eliza A. Victoria  
Inquirer Research

BENEFITS—INCLUDING BONUSES, INSURANCE COVERAGE AND A SENSE OF POWER—COME WITH BEING AN OFFICIAL IN THE COUNTRY'S SMALLEST POLITICAL UNIT.

Aside from the honorarium a barangay official receives (not less than P1,000 for the barangay chair and not less than P600 for each of the seven regular barangay council members and the Sangguniang Kabataan chair), he/she is entitled to:

- A Christmas bonus of at least P1,000.
- Insurance coverage (includes disability, accidents, death and burial).

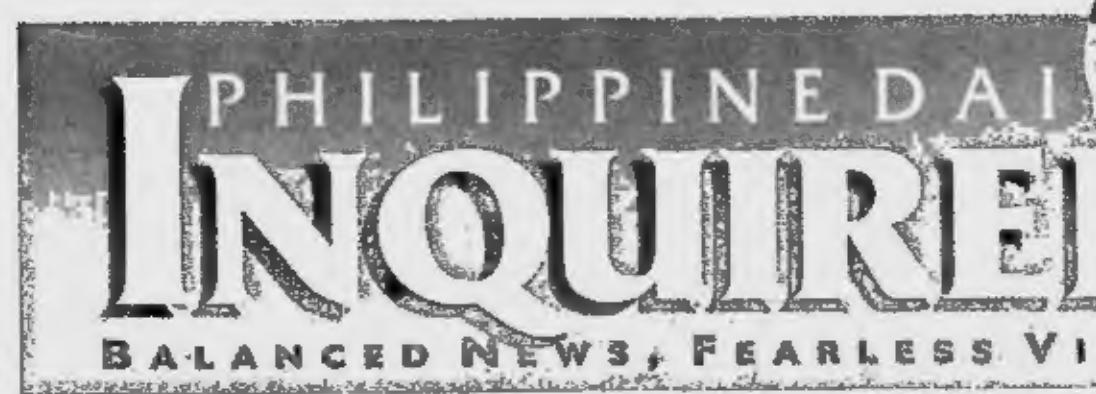
WHAT'S AT STAKE

## SPORTS / A27

### Miñoza ends title drought in Japan; Pagunsan breaks thru

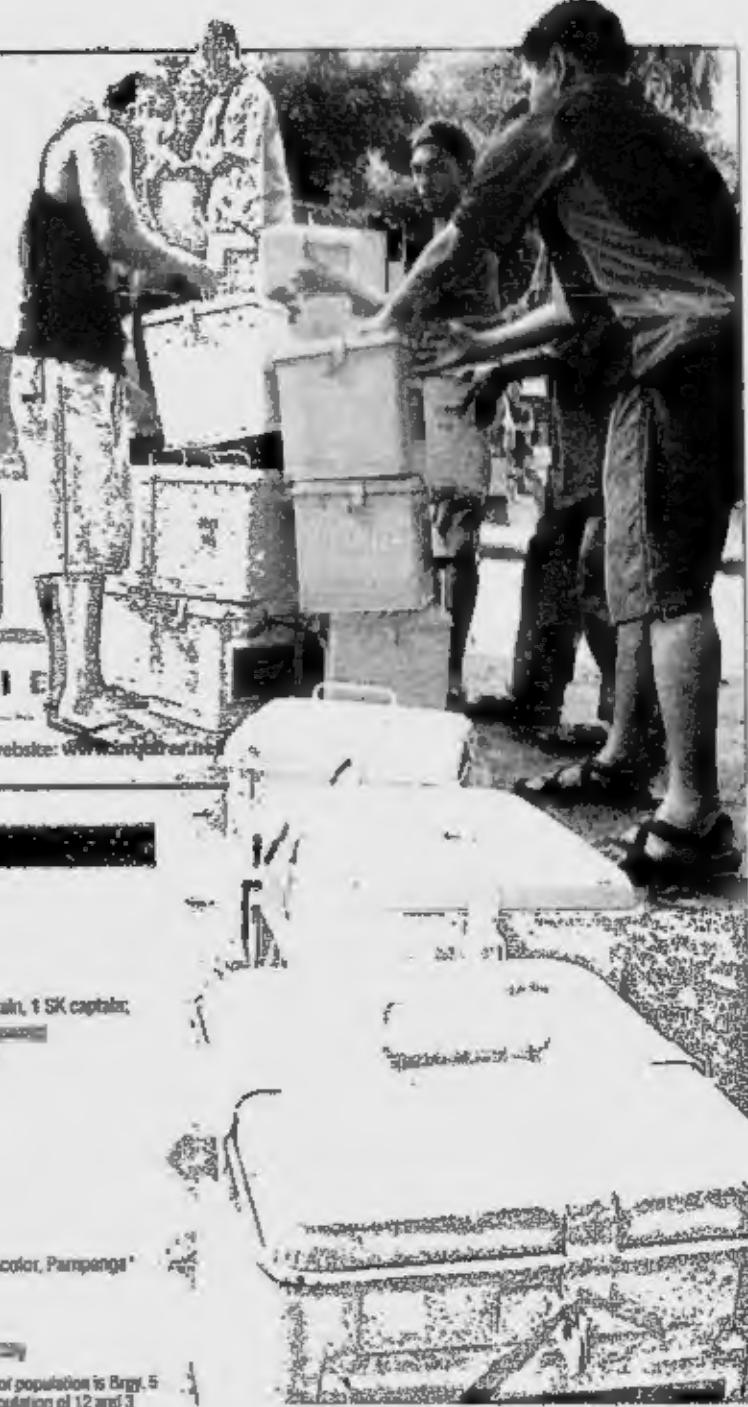
## WORLD / A26

### Turkey threatens incursion into northern Iraq



Monday, October 29, 2007

★ 11 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 323 P18



MANILA poll workers transport ballot boxes to precincts for today's exercise.

JESS YUSON

## 51M expected to vote today

By Inquirer Bureaus,  
Nikko Dizon and Leila B. Salaverria  
in Manila

ONE CANDIDATE IN ALBAY IS NAMED EDU Manzano, but he is not the one you see on television crushing pirated discs. Another aspirant in Mindanao goes by the name of Erap Estrada, but he is far from being a convicted plunderer.

In Catanduanes, an entire family is running for seats in separate villages.

In the Visayas, Commission on Elections computers stumbled upon the name of a school teacher running for three positions in three different areas.

Predictably, politicians in some villages are buying votes at the rate of P400 to P500 per ballot.

These are only some of the problems—and oddities—that the Comelec is expected to encounter as the bulk of the country's more than 51 million registered voters trek to the polls in nationwide barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections today. (See related stories in Metro, Page A23.)

Since yesterday, the Philippine National Police has been on the highest security alert, warning the elections could be disrupted in some places by communist New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas said to be backing some candidates.

About a million candidates are vying for nearly 672,000 posts in some 42,000 barangays.

PNP Director General Avelino Razon Jr. said the police were verifying intelligence reports that

51M EXPECTED / AB

## FAST FACTS

Total no. of barangays	41,594
Total no. of barangays affected by typhoon	51,347,805
For barangay polls	48,192,978
For SK polls	3,154,929
Positions at stake	1 barangay captain, 1 SK captain; 1 barangay vice captain; 7 SK kapuwad
Total no. of households	319,578
For SK polls	45,410
Affected by typhoon	188,419
Population	38,000
Household	Concepcion, Bacolor, Pampanga
Richest barangay	10
Affected by typhoon	1

COMPILED BY SCHATZI QUODALA

Erap pardon could lead to fall of President

By Amando Doronila

THE ABSOLUTE PRESIDENTIAL PARDON granted to former President Joseph Estrada put a formal closure to the most celebrated corruption case ever faced by a Filipino president after Ferdinand Marcos.

## ANALYSIS

With the pardon, the saga of Estrada's fall from power that started with his impeachment in Congress in October 2000 came full circle. It also created a new political storm that threatens to oust President Macapagal-Arroyo.

When the political history of the country in the first two decades of the 21st century is written, it will be defined by the intertwined fates of two presidencies—that of Estrada and of Ms Arroyo.

Estrada's fate was sealed by corruption; Ms Arroyo's hinges on a similar issue. Both presidencies are two sides of the same coin. Neither presidency can claim moral ascendancy over the other on the corruption issue.

While it was the Arroyo presidency that initiated the first plunder case against Estrada, she also cleared Estrada of the criminal stigma of corruption with the absolute pardon.

The executive clemency allowed Estrada to escape the ignominious fate suffered by Marcos.

Marcos fled in February 1986 before a successor government could organize corruption charges against him, and before an angry mob that stormed

ERAP PARDON / A17

## Estrada backs away from GMA-quit call

Rejects bid to set up transition government

By Jocelyn R. Uy

FORMER PRESIDENT Joseph Estrada yesterday distanced himself from fresh calls for the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo sparked by the pardon she had granted the disgraced leader convicted of plunder.

"It's the people—the poor sector which is the largest part of our society who should choose and decide who they want to run or replace the government, not the few elitists and the churchmen," Estrada told the INQUIRER by phone.

On Friday, the ousted leader was given a new lease on life and walked out of his sprawling Tanay, Rizal, vacation house, where he had spent most of the six years he had been under house arrest, a free man after accepting executive clemency.

The pardon, which both the Estrada and Arroyo camps cited as a step toward national reconciliation, has triggered calls among civil society groups and political and church leaders for the removal of the President and the setting up of a junta to be headed by Chief Justice Reynato Puno.

A Puno-led transition government also does not appeal to Estrada, who said that the nation would only tumble into the same pitfalls of the military.

ESTRADA / A17



### WOMAN ON TOP

President Macapagal-Arroyo grants the audience during the awarding ceremonies in Gawad Kalinga's search for the most inspiring entrepreneurial communities held yesterday on the SM Mall of Asia grounds in Pasay City.

LYN RILLON

## HAWAII WARNING CENTER

## Scientists scan world for tsunamis

By Tessa Quismundo

EWAA BEACH, HAWAII—IT HAD BEEN quiet for days in this part of Hawaii. Scientists at the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) were on routine watch of seismograph and tide readings from around the globe on a typical sunny morning.

In a snap, the drone-like whir of computers and the casual click of keyboards were overtaken by the staff's beeper

alarms that frantically sounded off every minute. Telephones rang right after they were hung up, and computer screens were updated almost every second.

A massive earthquake had just struck off Indonesia's Sumatra island, and the scientists were racing against time to warn coastal areas of a tsunami if deemed necessary.

Seconds had never been as precious. It was the lesson the world took from the Indian Ocean tsunami of Dec. 26,

2004, when close to 300,000 people were killed or went missing.

"This is unusually large ... this happens around every 10 days ... Last week was very quiet. We had very few events to respond to," geophysicist Gerard Fryer told reporters from Southeast Asia who happened to be at the center at the time of the quake.

"There might be aftershocks from this event. So the next events will be easy to

SCIENTISTS / A18

REBEL SOLDIERS

/ A18

## Rebel soldiers offered jobs as VIP bodyguards

By Nikko Dizon

AFTER YEARS OF FIGHTING COMMUNIST insurgents and Abu Sayyaf bandits, what do Army Scout Rangers implicated in a failed power grab get from the military aside from more than a year in



## 'Rido' worsens conflict in South, says study

CLAN VIOLENCE HAS AGGRAVATED the conflict between government forces and Islamic separatists in the southern Philippines, making the decade-long search for peace there even harder, a new study says.

The study, released on Wednesday by the Asia Foundation, said the peace process in Mindanao, where Islamic sepa-

ratists have been fighting for self-determination since the 1970s, would have a better chance of succeeding if clan violence were addressed.

The project's researchers, who included Islamic scholars and anthropologists, found that in Mindanao from the 1930s to 2005, there had been 1,266 cases of clan vio-

lence—called "rido" by Filipino Muslims—in which 5,500 people were killed and thousands were displaced.

While clan conflict is common in many societies, rido is an especially volatile force because it has, according to the study, "wider implications for conflict in Mindanao, primarily because it tends to interact in

unfortunate ways with separatist conflict and other forms of armed violence."

The government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front have been negotiating for peace since 1997, but no substantial agreement has been reached.

According to the study, half of

'RIDO' WORSENS / A18



## WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Central Luzon will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms while Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas/Bacoor	Cloudy with Rains
Batangas	Cloudy with Rains	Batas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cabu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gov. Simeon	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Zambales	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Cagayan	Cloudy with Rains	Borongan	Cloudy with Rains

COMPILED BY SCHATE GUICLARA FOR RESEARCH/10/26/07

SOURCE: PAGASA

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

# Second FRONT PAGE

E-mail: pr\_news@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/nation



MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

EZ2

13 18

(In exact order)

Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening

5 3 9 | 1 4 9

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

4 18 28 38 40 43

P51,617,667.60

# Nograles belies Palace loyalty check 'Malacañang meet was to show support for Estrada pardon'

## WHAT'S INSIDE

### ■ MENDOZA decries Senate treatment

/A4

### ■ ARMY OFFICER who died in Sudan to be honored

/A6

### ■ AREAS AT RISK of bird-flu infection listed

/A9

By Norman Bordadora

AN ADMINISTRATION congressman said over the weekend that there was no need for President Macapagal-Arroyo to conduct a loyalty check among lawmakers in the wake of the alleged rift between her and Speaker Jose de Venecia.

Davao City Rep. Prospero Nograles issued the statement late Saturday after confirming that a group of House members without De Venecia went to Malacañang on Thursday to express their support for Ms Arroyo after she pardoned convicted plunderer, former President Joseph Estrada, earlier that day.

"There was no such thing as a

loyalty check. The President knows in her heart who are the congressmen who won't desert her," Nograles told the INQUIRER.

About 20 House members reportedly trooped to Malacañang on Thursday evening. Earlier in the day, De Venecia's son and namesake, Jose "Joey" De Venecia III, had also testified against Ms Arroyo at the Senate.

The younger De Venecia said former Socioeconomic Secretary Romulo Neri had told him that the President wanted the \$329-million National Broadband Network (NBN) deal with China's ZTE Corp. approved even after he told her about a P200-million bribe offered to him to approve it.

De Venecia also claimed that Ms Arroyo's husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, was promised a \$70-million commission from the NBN deal by those pushing for the project, an accusation that the latter decried as a "fairy tale."

"(The meeting in Malacañang was) only upon the ini-

tiative of the congressmen who were in Manila and mostly first-timers through text messages only," Nograles said.

But Nograles, whose name earlier cropped up as a potential replacement for De Venecia should his rift with Ms Arroyo come to a head, said there was nothing about the meeting to hide from the Speaker.

"I myself sent text messages to congressmen including the Speaker. There was nothing to hide because there was no agenda about the House leadership issue. Like I said, we won't rock the boat," Nograles said.

He earlier said that the only way De Venecia would be replaced was if De Venecia himself allowed it.

Nograles, a member of De Venecia's Lakas party, reiterated that Thursday's meeting in Malacañang was "just to show support for (Ms Arroyo's) decision to pardon (Estrada). It was a pure show of support and a social dinner and drinks."

## Reform youth council, don't abolish it, says ex-SK leader

By Cristina Arzadon, Inquirer Northern Luzon, and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

LAOAG CITY—WHILE THE Sangguniang Kabataan elections today may generate little interest, this should not be a cause to sideline the youth from taking part in governance, the former national SK chair said.

"What we need is reformation [of the SK] not [its] abolition. The youth should be treated as partners, not merely beneficiaries, in implementing government programs," said Richard Alvin Nalupta, chair of the National Youth Commission (NYC) and president of the SK Alumni Association.

Nalupta said the SK is an avenue for the youth to ventilate their sentiments and, in the process, convince others to take action.

Republic Act No. 8044, or the Youth in Nation-Building Act, created the NYC in 1995 and established a national comprehensive and coordinated program on youth development.

Under the law, all youth programs and projects that government agencies implement are evaluated and monitored for their role in involving and enabling the youth as partners toward national development.

Nalupta, who is also chair of the committee on Asean youth coop-

eration, is a former SK president of Ilocos Norte. He headed the SK national federation for seven years.

Based on NYC's discussions among youth groups, the sector wants to play an active role in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of government programs, he said.

### Meddling politicians

"They don't want to be relegated to being fence-sitters or passive recipients [of programs]. The government should welcome this," he said.

"The SK was envisioned as a training ground for responsible leaders to hone their leadership skills. If they are exposed to corruption [in the process], it is because of the meddling of older politicians," Nalupta said.

He said a provision in the SK reform bill seeks to shield the youth from any interference by traditional politicians.

The bill also seeks to lay down the allocation of SK funds to specific programs with 50 percent to be used for district projects of a youth official while the rest would go to health, livelihood and anti-illegal drug campaigns and capacity-building programs.

"We are also reorienting the minds of local government [officials] and the community that the SK should not only be for sports tournaments," he said.

## All nat'l roads clear for holiday – DPWH

By Margaux C. Ortiz

ALL NATIONAL ROADS HAVE been cleared of obstructions in time for this year's observance of All Saints' Day, the Department of Public Works and Highways has announced.

Public Works Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. had instructed all DPWH regional directors and district engineers to conduct road maintenance work on national roads in preparation for the expected exodus of motorists going home to their respective provinces.

"The DPWH Lakbay Alay program includes road maintenance work such as pothole asphalt-patching operations, roadside vegetation control and drainage declogging operations," Ebdane said.

Teams composed of DPWH personnel and mechanics will also be deployed to respond to road emergency situations. These teams will be supported by DPWH equipment and service vehicles which could double as tow trucks, he said.

But in the Cordillera, the Gonogon Section of the Mt. Province-Kalanan Road and the Sultan Bridge Section on the Calanan-Pinukpuk-Abbut Road were temporarily closed due to landslides caused by heavy rains, DPWH Regional Director Mariano Alquiza reported.

"Our heavy equipment and maintenance crew are now conducting clearing operations on the affected roads and we are expecting to make them passable by this week," Alquiza said.

He also advised motorists to take Naguian Road and the Marcos Highway to get to Baguio City because Kennon Road is prone to slides due to the bad weather conditions.

In Central Luzon, DPWH Region III Director Alfredo Tolentino reported that the Barangay Villa Aurora section of the Nueva Ecija-Aurora Road was temporarily closed because of flooding.

Tolentino, however, pointed out that their maintenance operations on the Manila North Road had been completed.

DPWH Region IV-A Director Bonifacio Seguit, on the other hand, reported that the entire stretch of the Manila South Road (Quirino Highway) and Andaya Highway (Quezon side) had been cleared of all obstructions and were now passable to all types of vehicles.

As this developed, the Philippine Coast Guard has tightened security at all ports and ferry terminals nationwide in line with the Department of Transportation and Communication's Oplan Kaluluwa.

XTREME Magic Sing products available nationwide!



Metromanila Quiapo/Binondo AJD Electronics 736-3880 • Bog's Electronics 733-2386 • Delta Appliances 533-4633 • F.A. Obena • Gemetric 314-5871 • Hi-Mark Sales 735-1862 • JBR 242-1576/242-1585 • JMS Electronics 703-1024 • JMD Electronics 736-3880 • Joy's Electronics 734-8904 • Just 734-1819 • MAC Audio/Video 308-4472 • Millennium Electronics 314-8500 • Ok Electronics 733-9691 • Richland 733-1708 • SPL Audio Marketing 736-3880 • W&M Marketing 735-4274 • Worldwide Audio & Video 241-3446 • Zoo Enterprise 734-0731 • STA. Mesa/Greenhills/Cubao New Altronics • New Choice Value Marketing • E-Stop • A+ • MALATE/MAKATI/PARANAQUE/PASIG/MUNTINLUPA Image Video 525-1015 • Sohan Audio & Video Int'l 1527-1171 • Alabang Marketing 833-4653 • PROVINCIAL BAGUIO Rajet Electronics (074) 444-9340 • BACOLOD City Radio 020-2323997, FRM Marketing (034) 434-9328, Aiken Appliance (036) 268-5154, Republic Mart (034) 434-7284 • BANGUE MIKE's Superstore • BATAAN Ocampo's Mega Store Belanga (047) 237-2643, Dimakupitan • BICO Houseware Plaza, Willy & Sons Corporation (052) 4801-6424/820-5615, Jaysons Marketing (054) 456-1237 • BOHOL Island City Mall (038) 411-3880 • BUTUAN Vocom Enterprises • CAVITE V. Divina Enterprises (046) 990-0399 • CEBU A. Salonga (02) 232-5370, Smart Zone • DAVAO Fontronics (082) 227-0545 • ILQJO FRM Marketing, Aiken Appliance (036) 268-5154, Republic Mart, Village Marketing, Era Singer Enterprises • LAOAG Family Trade House, Manhattan Marketing (077) 772-0071 / 770-4248, Fort Roconda, New India Dept. Store (077) 772-0670 / 772-0478 • LAGUNA MSC Data Exchange (049) 562-7172, AX Trading (049) 808-5903 • LEYTE RL Appliance Center • METRO PLAZA • OPTIMUM TRADER • SOLIDMARK • CITIMALL • CENTRUM • COCAMPOS • MUSIC ZONE • IMPERIAL Appliance Plaza

For wholesale and dealership inquiries, contact us at:

THE ASTRA GROUP, INC. G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila Tel: 72-MAGIC, 726-9999, 726-2443, 726-2449 www.magic sing.com.ph

MANUFACTURED BY  
ET ENTER TECH  
COMPANY LTD (KOREA)

## Dolphins to be bred in Davao S.

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—A breeding station for dolphins will soon rise on Balut Island in Davao del Sur.

An investor from Iran, Foad Akhavan, has put in an initial P2 million to jumpstart the project, which is being undertaken with the local government of

Sarangani town in Davao del Sur. Sarangani Mayor Jerry Cawa told the Inquirer that the dolphin breeding station was the first of its kind in Mindanao.

Cawa said he and Akhavan signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the project, which will be established in a 15-hectare

facility in Sido Bulayi.

"He told us he would be pouring in some P50 million when the dolphin breeding starts," Cawa said.

He said the project would not only help increase the dolphin population in the area, but it could become a tourist attraction.

Since the breeding station would

need workers, Cawa said locals could find gainful employment.

He said Akhavan, a dolphin enthusiast, had noted that the dolphins on Balut Island belonged to one family and were people-friendly.

"Imagine watching a group of dolphins swimming with hu-

mans and leaping through the waves. That would surely catch the attention of tourists, especially nature lovers," Cawa said.

He said Akhavan was now trying to get breeder-dolphins so they could start the project immediately. Aquiles Zonio, Inquirer Mindanao

## Banker with a low golf handicap and a strong will to succeed seeks people with similar drive.

# (02) 995 1888

**Daniel Ines**

Manager, Dagupan Branch

More about who I'm looking for:

Businessmen who want to get the most out of their money. Professionals who look for a bank that, like them, provide expert advice.

Those who'd appreciate an account with no opening or maintaining balance and which allows them to withdraw from other banks' ATMs for free.

If you're one of them, call me. Or better yet, visit my branch at G/F Insular Life Bldg., Arellano St., Dagupan City. We can even exchange tips on the perfect golf swing.

You can also visit any of our Citibank Savings branches.

You'll find it doesn't take much to experience world-class banking.

**Citibank Savings. Now in your neighborhood.**

**Visit our newest branch in Angeles City  
G/F Marlim Mansions, MacArthur Highway, Balibago, Angeles City**

**Bancomer**

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Maximum Deposits Insurance for Each Depositor P250,000. Subject to PDIC rules.

Visit any of our Citibank Savings Branches: Alabang • Angeles • Apus-Apus Avenue • Bacolod • Batangas • Binondo • Bulacan • Zamboanga • Cagayan de Oro • Caloocan • Cebu • Mandaua • Cebu • Ormoc Avenue • Congressional Avenue • Dagupan • Davao • Del Monte Avenue • Divisoria • Ermita • Frontera Verde • Greenhills • Iloilo • Jose Abad Santos Avenue • Katipunan Avenue • Las Piñas • Legazpi Village • Ortigas • Pasay Road • Pasig • Market Avenue • Pasig • Rosario • Pasong Tamo • San Fernando • San Pablo • Shaw Boulevard • Sta. Lucia East • Sucat • Tomas Morato Avenue • West Triangle

Citibank is a registered service mark of Citigroup Inc. Let's Get It Done is a service mark of Citigroup Inc.

**citibank savings**

let's get it done

**LAST 3 days!**

# BUY 1 TAKE 1 ON DIAMOND PEEL

from Oct. 29-31, 2007 only

**October - The Season to Have Gorgeous-Looking Skin!**

This month, Facial Care Centre celebrates 25 years of professional skincare. So we're giving a great discount on our hugely popular Diamond Peel!

- Get rid of age spots and blemishes
- Reduce fine lines and wrinkles
- Even out skin tone
- Get a healthier complexion
- Renew skin's elasticity and suppleness
- Refine pores and prevent future breakouts

For the ultimate choice in skincare, trust the name most women have trusted for 25 years. Trust only Facial Care Centre.

Call now for a free consultation.

**892-SKIN (7546)**

MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7831)

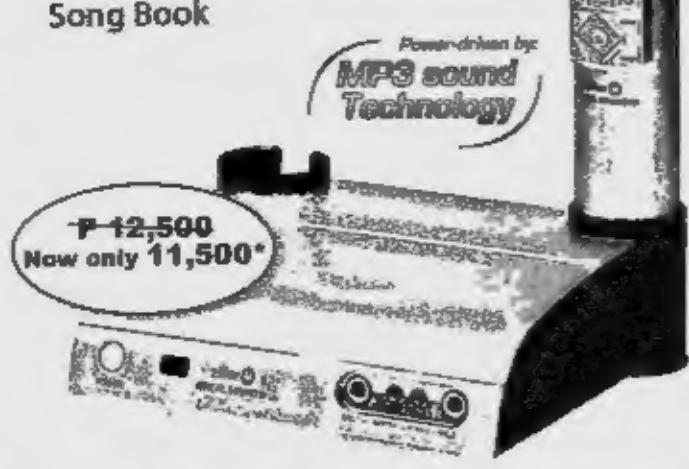
**May 1,273 ENGLISH na, may 277 OPM pa!**



**Mas masarap nang mag-Videoke!**



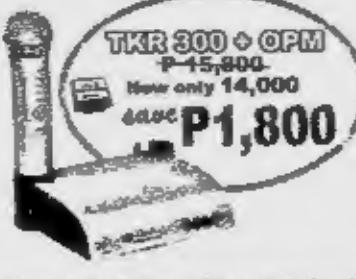
- Plus!
- **DO-IT-YOURSELF** picture background (memory pack required)
- Sing with back-up singers
- Easy Song Search, no need for Song Book



**P 12,500  
Now only 11,500\***

**GRAND OCTOBER  
DIRIT PROMO!**

**HURRY! Save as much P 2,800! Avail of the following OPM packages and get a total of 577 OPM +1,273 English songs.**



Primo period: Oct 1-31, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3359. Series of 2007

**SM Appliance outlets:** The Block - SM Valenzuela - SM Cubao - SM Megamall - Rockwell - SM Makati - SM Fairview - SM Manila • SM Mall Of Asia • SM Sucat • SM Bicutan • SM Sta. Rosa • SM Las Piñas • Vivaland • SM Marilao • SM Pampanga • SM Baguio • SM Bacoor • SM Dasmarinas • SM Betangas • SM Lipa • SM Cebu • SM Iloilo • SM Lucena • SM Davao • SM Cagayan De Oro • SM Bacolod • **Automatic Centre outlets:** Market! Market! • Tutuban • Shaw Boulevard • Sogo Almall • Pioneer • Sogo Metro East • Gateway • Sogo Glorietta • Festival • **Robinsons outlets:** Robinsons Galleria • Robinsons Ermita • Robinsons Festival • **Robinsons Appliances outlets:** Novaliches • Pampanga • Metro East • **DIY outlets:** Araneta Square Monumen • Ortigas • Ever Galesco Commonwealth • Greenhills • Eastwood • Gateway • Sta. Lucia East (Cainta) • Nepo Mall (Pampanga) • Nepo Mall (Dagupan) • CSI (Dagupan) • Alaminos • Nepo Mall (Baguio) • Magic Mall (Urdaneta) • Nepo Mall ( Angeles) • Magic Mall (Urdaneta) • Balintog Mall (Urdaneta) • Olongapo City (Zambales) • Bay City Mall Batangas • Lotus Mall Imus Cavite • Univide Sales Paranaque City • Abanao (Baguio) • Coyeean (Baguio) • DIY San Pedro • DIY Sta. Rosa • DIY Sta. Cruz, Laguna • DIY Naga • Electronics Boutique outlets: Galleria • Metro East • Market! Market! • Festival • **Ambassador outlets:** Parksquare • Shangri-La Mall (2nd Flr.) • **Other outlets:** First Asian Appliance • Lighting Depot Shaw Blvd • Gadgets In style (Shangri-La Mall, 8th floor) • Sohan Int'l (Harrison Plaza) • Quality Cellular Phone Center (144-C West Avenue) • CMK Cellphone Accessories (311 B-Roosevelt Avenue) • Royal Duty Free Subic • Gaisano Cagayan De Oro  
Exclusively Distributed by RealSound Corporation • www.realsoundvideoke.com  
Tel No. (632) 360 8410 • (02) 447-3114 • (632) 447-3647 • BMS 0627-4842760

by media Med in KOREA  
www.tymedia.co.kr



# ARELLANO UNIVERSITY

www.arellano.edu.ph

auweb@arellano.edu.ph

**FLORENTINO CAYCO MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

(1) **GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**  
a. Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) - Educational Management  
b. Master of Arts in Education (M.A. in Education)

Plan A: with Thesis

Plan B: with Special Research Project  
Major: Educational Management & Supervision, English, Filipino, Guidance & Counseling, Home Economics, Mathematics, Psychology, Early Childhood Education and Special Education

c. Master of Arts in Psychology (M.A. in Psychology)

(2) **GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING**  
Master of Arts in Nursing (M.A.N.)

Areas of Concentration:

Maternal & Child Nursing, Medical & Surgical Nursing, Mental Health & Psychiatric Nursing and Community Health Nursing

(3) **GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**  
Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)

Major: General Management, Marketing Operations, Organizational Management and Finance

#### SCHOOL OF LAW

Bachelor of Laws (L.L.B.)

#### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts in English  
Bachelor of Arts in History  
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Bachelor of Arts in the Performing Arts  
Certificate of Proficiency in the Performing Arts - you can earn units and certificate of proficiency for every year completed leading to A.B.P.A.

#### SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (B.S.B.A.)  
Major: Business Management, Marketing Management, Financial Management and Human Resource Development Management (HRDM)

#### ARELLANO UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

ARELLANO UNIVERSITY Main Campus  
2800 Legarda St., Sampaloc, Manila  
Trunkline: 734-7371 to 78 loc. 227  
Telefax: 735-2448

ARELLANO UNIVERSITY in Malabon  
Ellis Esguerra Campus  
Gov. Pascual St., Malabon City  
Tel. No. 281-3288

#### ARELLANO UNIVERSITY in Pasay

José Abad Santos Campus  
3058 Taft Ave., Pasay City  
Tel. No. 612-2444, 612-2448 Telefax: 834-7467

#### ARELLANO UNIVERSITY in Paranaque

Andres Bonifacio Campus  
Paseo St., Canlagon, Paranaque City  
Tel. No. 840-7717 Telefax: 841-2480

#### INSTITUTE OF ALLIED MEDICAL SERVICES

Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy (B.S.P.T.)

#### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**FRESHMEN**  
- Form 138  
- Certificate of Good Moral Character  
**CROSS-ENROLEES**  
- Permit to Cross Enroll  
**TRANSFEREES**  
- Honorable Dismissal  
- Copy of Grades  
- Certificate of Good Moral Character

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

FOR THIS BATTLE-SCARRED RETIRED police general, appearing at a Senate inquiry into the controversial National Broadband Network (NBN) deal was a "harrowing experience" he is reluctant to go through again.

"We respect them (senators) but it should be mutual. You are a Cabinet secretary, not just somebody picked up from the street," said Transportation and Communication Secretary Leandro Mendoza in an interview with Inquirer editors and reporters last week.

"They (senators) only want you to answer yes or no, they don't want you to explain yourself," Mendoza said.

#### Sad, sorry

Mendoza was relating his appearance at the Senate on Sept. 20 where he was asked to explain the government's decision to award the NBN contract to ZTE Corp. of China without a bidding.

"This is a different Senate. Sometimes you feel sad but I just tried hard to smile every time my staff looked my way. They have to respect us, we feel bad about the whole thing. That is our sentiment. Our purpose in going there was to clarify all issues on procedure and procurement," Mendoza said.

Mendoza said he felt sorry for Commis-

sion on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos and Commission on Higher Education Chair Romulo Neri who were treated roughly by the senators when they appeared before the latter on Sept. 26.

#### Equal treatment

Aside from being skewered for his alleged wheeling and dealing in the NBN project, Abalos was also asked about an alleged extramarital affair. Neri, on the other hand, was besieged with repetitive questions by the senators who were dissatisfied with his answers, specifically on whether the President had ordered him to approve the NBN project despite the alleged bribe offer made to him by Abalos.

Mendoza said the senators should treat Cabinet officials as their "co-equals," being the "alter ego of the President."

When asked if he would attend the next Senate hearing, Mendoza said it would depend on the President.

Despite the avalanche of criticism that inevitably forced the President to cancel the ZTE contract, Mendoza said he continued to stand by his department's decision to endorse it.

"The project is good up to this day, I believe that it is," he said.

Mendoza said he was not surprised that local telecommunication firms were now keen on taking over the project after the ZTE contract was cancelled.

# BI tightens up at Naia

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THE BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION SINCE June has blocked the departure of some 250 Filipino "tourists" for abroad on suspicion they would seek work overseas, under its intensified campaign to stamp out the notorious escort service racket at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Immigration Commissioner Marcelino Libanan said yesterday that of the 310 passengers who were off-loaded from their flights from June 15 to Sept. 30, 282 were Filipinos while the rest were foreigners.

Libanan said 250 of the Filipinos were deemed to be undocumented workers disguised as tourists.

#### Human trafficking victims

"Many of them did not have the required clearances from the POEA (Philippine Overseas Employment Administration) and attempted to leave in violation of the government's ban on the departure of undocumented overseas Filipino workers," he said.

He said most of the Filipinos were bound for destinations like the Middle East, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Of the 28 off-loaded foreigners, Libanan said most of them were transit passengers who were being victimized by human trafficking syndicates. They were caught with spurious travel documents trying to head to various other foreign destinations.

#### Sad plight

Libanan said about 30 other Filipinos were also prevented from leaving for various reasons, including 18 persons who were on the bureau's hold-departure list and 10 government employees who did not have the required travel authority.

The immigration chief said the escort racket, allegedly run by unscrupulous personnel of various government agencies with offices at the Naia, had been blamed for the sad plight of many undocumented Filipinos wishing to work abroad.

For a fee, these government personnel escort undocumented would-be overseas workers through the maze of exit procedures at the Naia all the way to their aircraft, knowing full well they don't have papers and would likely end up at the mercy of employers abroad if they do make it out of the Philippines.

#### Correction

IN THE OCT. 10 issue, a story on Page A3—"Cops, again, say they'll go after cars with sirens"—misstated the expiration date of the commemorative plates issued by The Kiwanis Club of St. John. The plates are valid until Dec. 31, 2008—not April 10, 2008.

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascarado Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Lorna Kalaw Tiro, readers' advocate, e-mail address: readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph or fax Nos. 897-47-93/94, Attn: Readers Advocate. Her phone number is 897-8808 Local 342.

**STICK of LEAKS?**  
Consult the expert...

Dr. SEAL is an acrylic, permanent waterproofing membrane that:

- Protects old and new concrete
- Prevents corrosion of metal

Illustrated by Rich Innovation Marketing Inc.  
Tel. 731-3010 / 731-7651 Fax: 731-4200  
New Manila Hardware  
Tel. 732-2155, 733-2148, 733-1972 Fax: 725-1787

Now available at leading hardware stores, Home Depot branches and D.I.Y. centers

ENROLLMENT FOR 2ND SEM NOW GOING ON (OPEN ON SUNDAYS - OCT. 28 & NOV. 4, 2007)



A PAL Roundtrip Ticket or a Mango Bracelet Watch?  
Whatever you fancy is yours FREE.

MANGO

Get a Mabuhay Miles Visa and take off with a free domestic roundtrip ticket via Philippine Airlines.  
Or get the perfect fashion accessory for your new RED MasterCard – a free Mango bracelet watch.  
No guesswork. No raffles. Just pick your fancy and apply now!



Call (02) 85-800  
Click [www.hsbc.com.ph](http://www.hsbc.com.ph)  
Visit your nearest HSBC branch

HSBC   
The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Terms & Conditions apply. See application forms for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5170 and 5128, Series of 2007

**SLIMMERS WORLD Where figures don't lie!**

**BUY 1 month  
GET 1 month  
FREE!**

**NO MONTHLY DUES ON LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP!**

**PERSONAL TRAINING & ALL THE LATEST AEROBICS.**

**BIKINI BODIES 2007**  
2nd Runner-up WINNER JOLAINA NICOLAI PENA LOST 20 lbs UNDER MEDICAL SUPERVISION

**SLIMMING**

**BUY 15 treatments  
GET 15 FREE!**

**MESO WHITE  
MESO REJUVENATION  
COSMETIC FILLERS  
NUTRACELL-FACE**

**WART REMOVAL  
LASER ACNE TREATMENT  
SKIN WHITENING  
FACIAL**

**LASER HAIR REMOVAL**  
**BEST PRICE IN THE PHILIPPINES!**

**SMOOTH THOSE LUMPS & BUMPS WITH THE SPOT REDUCTION SYSTEM!!!**

**CALL OUR ONE-STOP SUPER CENTERS FOR FITNESS, SKIN, BODY AND FACE.**

**FITNESS HOTLINE: 536-3333**  
**SKIN HOTLINE: 525-8771**  
**MOBILE NUMBER: 091-SLIMMERS (75466377)**

[www.slimmersworld.com.ph](http://www.slimmersworld.com.ph) [Inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph](mailto:Inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph)

ADRIATICO-MALATE	ALABANG	BINONDO	GALOCAN	CEBU	GREENHILLS
May	Gemma	Galo	Olive	Jone	Jone
5360619/5259891	8090395/7750587	2421312/2420728	3657653	23153254	7266505/7261526
0921 4669423	0918 3912510	0917 8224399	0915 8804668	0915 8797217	0917 8261204
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479763	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429

**P 3,300  
na lang!!!**

**5 YEARS  
WARRANTY**

**Quality,  
Durability,  
Service.**

**Pulmo-Aide™  
NEBULIZER • COMPRESSOR  
by DEVILBISS®**  
Made in USA

**NEBULITE Neb Kit**  
Ito ay may takayahan na  
mag produce ng 2.1 MICRONS  
para sa mas epektibong lungs

**Know when to  
inhale by using  
Peak Flow Meter**

**BRANCHES:**  
SANLAKA: 711-8374 PASIG: 631-1715 LIPA: 963-2051 PARAWIWA: 636-3118  
PANAGBAN: 675-7200 CABANATUAN: 644-540-7912 ILOG: 654-473-0150 CEBU: 632-254-2367  
DAKAD: 632-222-4401 ILIW: 633-326-1413 CAGAYAN DE ORO: 636-856-0150

Visit our new branches: **MAGA** and **NUEVA ECJA**

Exclusively Distributed by:  
**medical center trading corporation**  
Pioneer St., Cor Shaw Blvd., Pasig City  
Tel.: 631-1715 • 631-8365 • 637-8304  
Fax: (0832) 631-7088 • E-mail: medcom@yaho.com.ph

Available at **mercury drug** Stores Nationwide

## Honors for Army officer

By Nilda Dizon

PHILIPPINE ARMY LT. COL. RENERIO Batalla, the United Nations peacekeeper who died of malaria last week in Sudan, will be given military honors today at Villamor Air Base in Pasay City.

His remains, scheduled to arrive last night at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport via Dubai, were to be brought to the Philippine Air Force headquarters chapel.

After the military honors, set for today at 7:30 a.m., Batalla's remains will be brought to the Libingan ng mga Bayani for a wake until his interment on Nov. 5.

Batalla was a member of the 13-man Philippine humanitarian delegation to the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) tasked to oversee implementation of the 2005 cease-fire agreement between the Sudanese government and rebel groups.

He was scheduled to end his year-long

tour of duty in December when he succumbed to the disease on Oct. 24, a day after his 41st birthday, Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Ernesto Torres said.

Batalla, a member of Philippine Military Academy of Class 1990, is survived by his wife and four children. The youngest is an eight-month-old boy.

"It is always with a heavy heart [that we experience] the loss of a very promising officer while in the prime of his career," Army chief Lt. Col. Alexander Yano said. "He might have gone earlier than most of his peers but his reputation for serving his country with honor, for being a good provider for his family, and for sharing true friendship will be remembered forever."

Torres described Batalla as a "versatile" military officer who served in the intelligence, operations and personnel units of the Army.

Prior to his UN assignment, he was part of the Army Personnel Management Center.

## SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS PRO-MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH RULING

# Salamat sa Suporta

**GATAS NG INA pa rin ang binigyang halaga  
para sa kalusugan ng mga sanggol at ina**



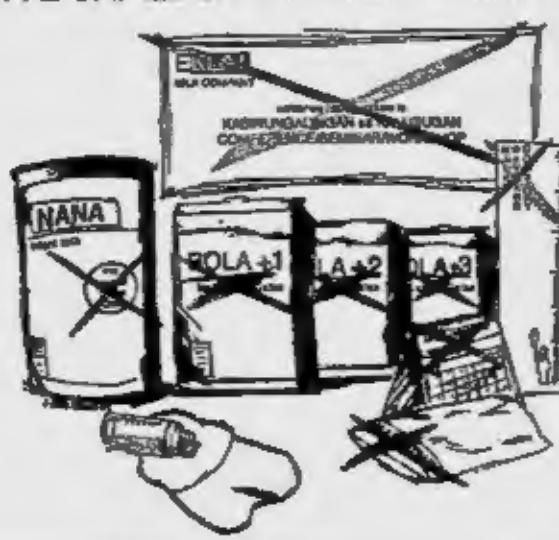
## A MAJOR VICTORY FOR BREASTFEEDING

The Department of Health salutes the international and local breastfeeding advocates for their efforts in winning the battle over the bottle!

The Supreme Court decided to uphold the right of the State to protect the health of its citizens through the stringent regulation on the promotion and advertising of infant formula and milk substitute products.

Now more than ever, we will be vigilant in the enforcement of 53 of the 56 provisions of the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Milk Code in support of breastfeeding.

- THE SCOPE OF COVERAGE OF PRODUCTS UNDER THE MILK CODE INCLUDES NOT ONLY INFANT FORMULA BUT ALSO BREASTMILK SUBSTITUTES FOR OLDER CHILDREN.
- ALL ADVERTISING AND MARKETING MATERIALS OF MILK COMPANIES WILL BE SCREENED AND APPROVED BY AN INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE (IAC) BEFORE THEY ARE MADE PUBLIC.
- NO MILK COMPANY SHOULD SPONSOR HEALTH ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CAMPAIGNS, CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND CLASSES INTENDED FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
- NO HEALTH WORKER SHOULD PROMOTE OR SELL INFANT FORMULA AND OTHER MILK PRODUCTS AND DEVICES.
- NO MATERIAL THAT PROMOTES BREASTMILK SUBSTITUTES SHOULD BE VISIBLE IN ALL HEALTH FACILITIES.
- DONATIONS MAY BE MADE BY MILK COMPANIES ONLY UPON REQUEST AND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.
- NO INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE SHALL SIT IN POLICY MAKING BODIES.



**There is absolutely NO substitute for Breastmilk!**

# CA orders Esperon et al. to explain officer's detention

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE COURT OF APPEALS HAS directed Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. and three other military officers to bring detained Marine Brigade Commander Col. Ariel Querubin before it on Nov. 8 and explain why the officer is still locked up.

The appellate court's Fifth Division issued a writ of habeas corpus in favor of Querubin after his wife, Ma. Flor Querubin, questioned the legality of her husband's detention. She pointed out that after all this time, Querubin, suspected of complicity in an alleged coup attempt last year, had not been formally charged.

Aside from Esperon, the other respondents were Maj. Gen. Delfin Bangit, commanding general of the 2nd Infantry Division of the Philippine Army; Col. Arnulfo Marcos, commanding officer of the APP Custodial and Deten-

tion Center in Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, and Col. Irene Espino, camp commander, General Headquarters, at Camp Aguinaldo.

"Respondents are all ordered to appear before this Court on the said date and time to show cause why the said Col. Ariel O. Querubin is restrained of his liberty," the CA said in its Oct. 24 resolution.

Querubin, a Medal of Valor recipient, is among 28 officers detained at Camp Capinpin. In February last year, he led a Marine stand-off in Fort Bonifacio allegedly over the unceremonious dismissal of their superior officer, Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda, amid coup rumors.

Querubin's lawyer, Rodrigo Artuz, said Esperon had not signed the pre-trial

advice on the charges to be filed against Querubin, which was supposed to be the basis for the court-martial proceeding against him.

"Without a valid referral, then there is no charge before the court-

martial," Artuz said in a phone interview.

He said that because the court-martial was baseless, there was no reason to detain Querubin.

Querubin's lawyers also ques-

tioned the court-martial before the Supreme Court, asking the tribunal to stop the proceedings and to declare the creation of special general court-martial-2 against him and several other officers illegal.

Celebrate & have fun together  
**DRAGON FIREWORKS**  
 PROFESSIONAL QUALITY PYROTECHNICS & SPECIAL EFFECTS  
**BIG DISCOUNT & more prizes + FREE DELIVERY**  
 + For every P2,500.00 you get FREE DISCOUNT TICKET for 500  
 WE ACCEPT DEALERS (WHOLESALE AND RETAIL)  
 Distributed by: Excelbrands Marketing Corp.  
 Tel. No.: 231-5198 • 241-7526 • 244-5539  
 Telefax: 245-4818 • Cel.No. 0917-8148483  
 visit [www.dragonfireworks.com](http://www.dragonfireworks.com) • e-mail: [dragon\\_fireworks@smartracount.com](mailto:dragon_fireworks@smartracount.com)

**MOLDEX PRODUCTS, INC.**  
**SANIMOLD Extra**  
 UPVC DWV PIPING SYSTEM  
*Walang Tagas!*  
 NEW and IMPROVED  
 The Leak-proof System features:  

- ✓ Patented Gasket Seal Ring (for odor free and leak proof System)
- ✓ Dual Attachment System (choice of Solvent cement or O-ring seals)
- Plus Our pipes are compliant to the Global ISO heavy duty standards
- ✓ Patented Built-In Slope Design (prevents clogging of waste thus eliminating leaks and odors)
- ✓ Deepset Socket Connections for extra grip and leak proof joints

 Hotlines: 373-1000 • 0918-802-8888 • [www.moldex.com.ph](http://www.moldex.com.ph)

**SMART GOLD**

CHANGE OUTFITS WHENEVER THE MOOD STRIKES.

Mix and match with these changeable front and back covers for that sexy and slim look.

Get a FREE Samsung Z240 and a 512 MB SD card when you sign up for the SMART GOLD Plan 1200.

- Free front and back covers in Scarlet red, Indigo blue and Pearl white
- 3G-capable
- 1.3 MP camera + VGA (dual cam)
- Expandable memory (micro SD)
- MP3 player / GPRS / WAP 2.0
- Bluetooth 1.2 / USB 1.1 / JAVA MIDP 2.0
- 262K color TFT main screen (176 x 220 pixels, 2.1")

Get 3G high-speed Internet connection on this phone! Pay a flat rate of only P10 per 30 minutes (no kilobyte charging). To activate, text SMART 3G <handset model> and send to 211.

Visit any SMART Wireless Center to avail of this great offer. Interested applicants must bring the following documents: Valid ID, Proof of Billing, Financial Documents (COE or W2). For details, call 888 through your SMART cellphone or 888-1111 via landline.

Slim, sexy and SMART is in vogue. Sign up now!

**SAMSUNG mobile**



ON COMMUNICATIONS

ON ENTERTAINMENT

ON TRANSACTIONS

**SMART**  
THE POWER TO LEAD

# 51M expected to vote today

From page A1

the Communist Party of the Philippines and its legal front organizations had fielded sympathetic candidates in some areas.

In one region, the guerrillas were covertly backing 28 candidates, including 22 who were running for barangay captain, The Associated Press reported.

## Less violent than 2002

The PNP said 20 people had been killed and 13 others injured in election-related incidents in its monthlong monitoring of the peace and order situation prior to today's balloting.

"So far, the figures are much lower than the incidents recorded in the 2002 barangay elections," Chief Supt. Samuel Pagdilao, PNP spokesperson, told the INQUIRER.

Pagdilao said 159 incidents were reported for the entire election period in 2002. As of Saturday, only 25 cases were listed, he said.

The 20 fatalities included incumbent barangay officials, candidates and civilians.

PNP information officer Roy Navales said 318 people had been apprehended for violating the gun ban, while 277 firearms had been confiscated.

The Comelec expected no major hitches in its preparations for today's voting.

## Liquor ban

Its spokesperson, James Jimenez, said the poll body was mostly dealing with reports of people—perhaps too happy over the long weekend they were enjoying—having one drink too many.

The liquor ban took effect yesterday and would last until midnight tonight.

Violators of the ban could face jail time of not less than one year but not more than six years without probation.

President Macapagal-Arroyo is casting her vote in her hometown of Lubao, Pampanga, before flying to Dumaguete City to attend the opening of the Integrated Taxation System International Conference.

When voters troop to the precincts today, many will likely have on their minds which candidates could solve the gut problems facing their communities, from petty neighborhood quarrels and uncollected garbage to busted streetlights and the lack of health services.

Many candidates are running for the honor, power and privilege attached to the position.

## What makes them run

The monthly allowance of a barangay captain may range from a low of P3,500 to a high of P20,000, depending on the internal revenue allotment (IRA) and income of the village.

In some areas, each barangay council member receives a monthly honorarium of P11,500 while the barangay



TEACHERS prepare voting paraphernalia for today's barangay elections at Commonwealth Elementary School in Quezon City.

chair gets P15,000 monthly.

A town official said most candidates were running because of the honorariums they could get as well as for the scholarships granted to their children.

For farmers, who constitute most of the elective barangay officials in the provinces, P3,500 is already a "bonanza" because they earn only when they harvest their crops, officials said.

## Family affair

In Bulacan, Maria Gilamie Sarmiento, 21, said the P1,870 monthly honorarium she received as Maysantol SK chair in Bulacan town helped pay for her education.

She said scholarship assistance is also given to family members of village officials.

In Catanduanes, an entire family is running for barangay posts in separate villages.

Mark Ian Condeno is aiming for the SK chairmanship in Marambong while his mother, Mary Ching, is running for a seat in the barangay council.

Isei, the father, a former kagawad, is running for a similar seat in Napo several kilometers away in the poblacion, where the family resides, according to the young Condeno's rival, Michelle Trinidad.

Several third-term barangay captains have fielded their wives or close relatives to run for the posts they will soon vacate while they themselves are campaigning for a council seat.

## What's in a name?

Edu Manzano is running for kagawad of Calzada in Guinobatan, Albay. Of course, he is not the television game host who also confiscates pirated compact discs as chair of the Optical Media Board.

In Zone 2 in Digos City, Joseph Anthony Estrada made sure voters would not forget to write down his name for village councilor. During his campaign, he introduced himself to people as "Erap Estrada."

A former tanod, Estrada said he was not capitalizing on the name of the former President but merely showing how he admired

him. "My parents also love him very much. It's the reason they named me after him," he said.

## One bet, three posts

In Los Baños, Laguna, a reelectionist candidate for kagawad in Bagong Kalsada is named Boy Capitan.

Another candidate running for barangay captain in one of the villages of Nagcarlan is named Punong Lungsod.

In Negros Occidental, Comelec computers discovered that a 59-year-old teacher was running for three positions in different barangays.

Election supervisor Jessie Suarez said the name of Fe Benitez appeared in Comelec computer records as a candidate for councilwoman in Barangay 4 in Bacolod City and Zone 4 in Pulupandan town.

Her name also appeared as a candidate for barangay captain in Tabao Proper, Valladolid town.

The Comelec removed the name of Benitez as a barangay council candidate in Bacolod and Pulupandan after she chose to run as barangay captain for Tabao Proper.

## Sure of victory

In Cotabato City, candidates for village chair and village council in Rosary 11 have started serving the public even if they have not been elected.

Led by reelectionist chair Raul Ismael, some candidates were seen cleaning drainage and cutting grasses every morning while doing house-to-house campaign in the early evening.

"This is our way of showing we can be good servants. We have to clean our surroundings because this is our place and all of us will benefit from this simple service," Rasul said.

## Vote-buying, herding

Vote-buying and "herding" of young voters to ensure victory were reported in some areas in Bicol and the Visayas.

In Tacloban City, some candidates for barangay chair were reportedly buying votes for up to P500 per voter, prompting Mayor Alfred Romualdez to issue an appeal to both candidates and voters to keep the elections clean.

**Other sources of money**

Barangays raise additional revenue from other sources, such as fund-raising activities. Barangays can also apply for funding from provincial, city or municipal development funds.

The *punong barangay* also has the power to call and preside over the sessions of the Sangguniang Barangay and the barangay assembly, organize and lead operations during emergencies or calamities, prepare the annual executive and supplemental budgets of the

In Catanduanes, some SK chair candidates have distributed P400 as initial payment for votes, with the balance to be paid on the eve or on the day of election, according to a local government official.

The competition to win seats in the barangay council has emboldened a candidate for SK chair to convince 25 of the 35 young voters in Asuncion in Villa town to go with him to the capital town of Virac, 50 km away, where they are now being "kept" in a safe house until Election Day.

This practice of "keeping," which is applicable in elections where there are a limited number of voters, has persisted in Catanduanes ever since politicians forced councilors and SK municipal federation chairs, who will vote for their provincial federation presidents, to join them on trips outside the province.

They went as far as Boracay and Baguio City, where they were entertained until their return to the province to vote.

In Parang, Shariff Kabunsuan, a former town official said some politicians were paying voters who agreed to have their names removed from the voters' lists.

One of the areas of security concern being closely watched by the PNP is Mindanao.

In Pigcawayan, North Cotabato, a peace covenant was signed on Friday between warring members of the Almadene clan, who recently figured in a shootout.

In the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, police and government soldiers have been sent to villages of Lanao del Sur, Shariff Kabunsuan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao and Basilan, where at least 1,072 villages have been identified as "hot spots."

Bid Kabalu, spokesperson of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said the group's central committee had ordered all its forces to stay neutral and allow voting in their areas. With reports from Tonette Orejas, Anselmo Roque and Carmela Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon; Melvin Gascon, Villamor Visaya Jr., Estanislao Caldera, Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes and Vincent Cabresa, Inquirer Northern Luzon; Fernan Gitan, Romulo Ponte, Marlon Ramos, Niña Catherine Calleja, Niño Jesus Orbeta, Delfin Mallari Jr., Madonna Virola and Redempto Andra, Inquirer Southern Luzon; Alex Pal, Jhunex Napalacan, Carla Gomes, Kit Bagalip, Jani Arnaiz, Felipe Celino, Joey Gabeta and Vicente Labro, Inquirer Visayas; Jeffrey Matem, Orlando Dinoy, Charlie Seriase, Grace Albasin, Ma. Cecilia Rodriguez, Richel Umel, Risaleen Acac, Eldie Aguirre, Edwin Fernandez, Ryan Rosario, Nash Maulana and Alvin Añonuevo, Inquirer Mindanao.

**Assistors have not been lacking of late**, said Ruben Sison, who is gunning for his third and last term as chair of the upland village of Calumpang here.

The construction of an elementary school in the village in 1997, six years after Mount Pinatubo's eruptions, has helped.

"Many members of the tribe are now able to read and write," Sison, 53, said.

## Pact to prevent cheating

They are expected to assist the voters among their parents and other relatives, he said. Of the more than 800 voters in Calumpang, at least 350 are Aeta.



Aeta elder Jungle Serrano of Porac, Pampanga, wants his people to choose leaders who are wise, not those who have patrons among politicians in the lowlands.

## In modern way of voting, Aeta rely on 'assistors'

By Tonette Orejas  
Inquirer Central Luzon

To prevent rigging of choices, Sison and his lone opponent, Jimmy Jimenez, have made a pact whereby assistors would each help only three voters.

"An assisto should not write his or his choices. What should be written are the names of the candidates that the voter chooses," Sison said.

Sison, who finished only Grade 2, said his being literate would help him from being "fooled."

"I learned to write and read and even speak English when I worked as a jungle survival instructor for the [US] Air Force in the mountains of Mt. Pinatubo," he said.

## Importance of trust

Salong Sunggod, director of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples in Central Luzon, said the assisto system has been allowed by the Commission on Elections.

Sison and Roman King, a candidate for barangay chair in Inarao in Porac town, said that trust—a value many Aeta hold dear—had helped prevent cheating.

Assistors are usually relatives of voters, they said.

"You can't violate the trust of your relatives," said King, who is running against his sister, Mary Bulatao, the incumbent village chief.

# What's at stake in barangay polls

From page A1

- Free medical care in any government hospital or institution (includes surgical expenses, X-rays, laboratory fees, etc.).

- Medical coverage of up to P5,000 in private institutions (chargeable to barangay funds).

- Exemption from payment of tuition and matriculation fees in state colleges or universities located in the province or city to which the barangay belongs. This benefit is extended to the official's legitimate dependent children and to SK members.

- Preference in appointments to positions in government and in government-owned and -controlled corporations, subject to qualifications.

- The *punong barangay* is also allowed to carry a firearm within his/her jurisdiction in performance of peace and order functions.

- Officials of more affluent barangays, like Ayala Alabang in Muntinlupa City and St. Ignatius in Quezon City, receive

honorariums ranging from P8,000 to P15,000 a month.

"I receive P7,900," said St. Ignatius head Charmina Banal. "My kagawads and SK chair receive around P6,000 each."

Barangay Captain Roland Pineda of Ayala Alabang said he was receiving "more or less P15,000." His council members get between P12,000 and P15,000 each.

## P46 billion in funds

The Local Government Code of the Philippines (Republic Act No. 7160) defines the barangay as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies and programs. It also serves as a forum where people may express their opinions and where disputes may be settled amicably.

Barangays receive 20 percent of the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) allocated to local government units (LGUs).

In turn, the barangay must allocate its IRA as mandated by law: honoraria for officials (55 percent), Barangay Development Fund (20 percent), Sangguniang Kabataan (10 percent), Calamity Fund (5 percent).

cent), Reserve Fund (5 percent), and Discretionary Fund (5 percent).

In the proposed 2008 budget, LGUs were allocated P228 billion, which gives all 41,994 barangays nationwide a total fund of P46 billion. Ten percent of this amount—or around P5 billion—goes to the Sangguniang Kabataan.

The Sangguniang Barangay (which includes the SK chair as member) is the legislative body. It enacts ordinances and annual and supplemental budgets.

## Term limits

It also provides for the construction and maintenance of barangay facilities and other public works projects, regulates the use of facilities constructed with government funds within the jurisdiction of the barangay, holds fund-raising activities for barangay projects, prescribes fines in amounts not exceeding P1,000 for violation of barangay ordinances, and initiates the establishment of a barangay high school, whenever feasible.

The Omnibus Election Code (Batas Pambansa Blg. 881) sets the term of the *punong barangay* and the seven regular Sangguniang Barangay members at six years. This was reduced to three years by the Synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections Act of 2002 (RA 9164).

The election code states that barangay elections should be nonpartisan events: "No person who files a certificate of candidacy shall represent or allow himself to be represented as a candidate of any political party or any other organization."

Despite this, some politicians are known to give financial support to aspiring barangay officials, hoping that come election time, the latter would help deliver votes for them.

## Young ones

Young Filipinos have also been involved in local politics through the Sangguniang Kabataan.

Every barangay has a Sangguniang Kabataan composed of eight elected officials—one chair and seven members—who are tasked to "promulgate resolutions necessary to carry out the objectives of the youth in the barangay."

The Local Government Code states that SK candidates should be at least 15 but not more than 21 years old at the time of election. In 2002, RA 9164 amended the age qualifications, saying candidates

should be at least 15 years old and less than 18 years of age.

Registered constituents belonging to the same age range elect SK officials to three-year terms. Terms have been extended due to the postponement of SK elections.

Some sectors have called for the abolition of the Sangguniang Kabataan, saying it is being used by young members of political clans as launching pads for their political careers.

## Training ground

Others lament that the SK budget (10 percent of the barangay's general fund) is spent only on basketball tournaments and beauty pageants.

A former congressman claimed the SK is "a training ground not for efficient government leaders but for corrupt politicians."

But some SK projects have proved to be worthy allocations of barangay funds. They included free treatment and rehabilitation for disabled indigent patients, feeding programs, scholarships, skills training, coastal cleanups, homes for street children and medical missions.

# DA lists areas where bird flu may enter RP

By Amy R. Remo

**AGRICULTURE SECRETARY**  
Arthur C. Yap has appealed to local government units and the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) to keep a tight watch on migratory birds during the months of October to December.

To keep the Philippines one of the only three countries in Southeast Asia still free of the dreaded avian influenza, Yap also urged the public to help protect the P150-billion poultry sector, which employs over 150,000 Filipinos.

Bird flu, or avian influenza, is an infectious disease caused by the H5N1 virus.

All birds are believed to be susceptible to the virus, although some species are reported to be more resistant to infection than others. Some forms of bird flu may be transferred to humans.

According to Yap, the Department of Agriculture (DA) has intensified its information campaign in 20 areas at risk of bird flu infection as well as around the country's coastline and areas with high concentrations of ducks.

The migratory birds are expected from Indonesia, Taiwan and China.

The critical areas are Lake Mainit in Agusan del Norte; Agusan del Sur; Apandi, Cagayan; Olonga Island, Cebu;

Ligwasan Marsh, Kabacan, Cotabato; General Santos City;

Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte; Magat Dam, Isabela; Naujan Lake, Mindoro; Hinamaylan, Negros Occidental; Quezon, Palawan;

Candaba swamp, Pampanga; Roxas and Capiz on Panay Island; Sibugay province; Surigao del

Norte; Bulan and Matnog, Sorsogon; Surigao del Sur; Zamboanga City; Zamboanga del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur.

Duck farmers have been advised not to graze their flocks near the critical areas to avoid contact with migratory birds.

The DA has also set up task forces at the municipal level to deal with any outbreak.

"If anyone spots a sickly-looking bird in their area, they should immediately report it to the nearest BAI office," Yap said.

Avian influenza diagnostic lab-

oratories were set up early this year to pinpoint outbreaks and carry out the appropriate measures.

The BAI is also conducting table-top exercises as well as preparedness and response planning workshops.

A BAI team of veterinarians is carrying out a nationwide educational campaign for poultry and livestock growers on the threat and perils of bird flu.

In the event of a suspected outbreak, local task forces have organized rapid action teams that could

be deployed within 24 hours.

As of July 11, the World Health Organization reported that 192 of 318 people infected with the AI virus have died since a strain resurfaced in Southeast Asia in 2003.

MAKATI SHANGRILA  
MIZAL BALLROOM  
FUNCTION ROOMS A,B,C  
AVAILABLE JAN 6, 2008  
CONTACT JEN JAVILLONA  
TEL: 813-8888 LOC: 7469

## THE DAILY GOSPEL



Monday, October 29, 2007  
30th Week in Ordinary Time

Rom 8:12-17  
Luke 13:10-17

Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath and a crippled woman was there. An evil spirit had kept her bent for 18 years so that she could not straighten up at all. On seeing her, Jesus called her and said, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." Then he laid his hands upon her and immediately she was made straight and praised God.

But the ruler of the synagogue was indignant because Jesus had performed this healing on the Sabbath day and he said to the people, "There are six days in which to work; come on those days to be healed and not on the Sabbath."

But the Lord replied, "You hypocrites! Everyone of you unties his ox or his donkey on the Sabbath and leads it out of the barn to give it water. And here you have a daughter of Abraham whom Satan had bound for 18 years. Should she not be freed from her bonds on the Sabbath?"

When Jesus said this, all his opponents felt ashamed. But the people rejoiced at the many wonders that happened through him.

Commentary

We must live in the Spirit of God as the sons and daughters of God. We are the adopted children of God in Jesus, with Jesus as our brother. We call God Abba, Father, and have the same relationship to God as Jesus. This is the gift of the kingdom of God, the good news that Jesus brings to earth in his body. We must live in our bodies as Jesus lives in us—to the glory of God—for we are heirs with Jesus, in suffering and in glory.

A woman who for 18 years has been bent over is seen by God. He goes to her, touches her, and raises her up, and in gratitude, she blesses God. The synagogue and those in attendance are horrified. In setting her free from her bondage, Jesus has broken the Sabbath laws and their customs. They cannot rejoice with her or with Jesus. Then Jesus tells them Sabbath worship consists in this—setting others free—and not in following empty laws that make us feel like we are righteous. This is what our God looks for in us.

## PATTS College of Aeronautics

**C-to-C**  
**Curriculum to Career**  
**guarantees employment to qualified graduates**

Lombos Ave., San Isidro, Parañaque City  
[www.patts.edu.ph](http://www.patts.edu.ph)  
**825-8823**  
**825-8824**

**Courses Offered:**

<b>BS Aeronautical Engineering</b>	<b>BS Tourism Management</b>
<b>BS Air Transportation</b>	<b>BS Hotel and Restaurant Management</b>
<b>BS Aircraft Maintenance Technology</b>	<b>BS Airline Business Administration</b>
<b>BS Avionics Technology</b>	<b>Aircraft Technician Course • 2yr course</b>

Computer subjects integrated in all courses

ONE WORLD. ONE VIEW.

TCL LCD TV

Step up to a new level of viewing entertainment

All over the world, the name TCL has become known for quality TVs that set a standard for design, technology, and value. Life has become more exciting and entertaining with TCL, a truly international TV that's at home wherever in the world true quality is treasured.

TCL's Digital Dynamic High Definition (DDHD) Vision Engine contains 60 picture enhancement patents and features 5 core technologies built into every LCD TV. Each one offers more natural images with dynamic detail, and vivid color to meet your demand for realistic entertainment. Enjoy world-class viewing made possible with Emmy Award-winning technology, only on TCL's LCD TVs.

**Enjoy Award Winning Entertainment**

TCL's award-winning technology has earned the company numerous awards, including the 2007 International CES® Best of Show award. It clearly demonstrates TCL's technical superiority through its synergy of global resources and entertainment innovation.

**NATIONWIDE WARRANTY**

TCL offers a 4-year warranty on picture管 and a 2-year warranty on genuine parts and services that are honored at over 130 service centers nationwide, at no extra cost. With TCL, you can count on reliable customer service and expert speedy and professional assistance.

**JANUS 2007 DE L'INDUSTRIE AWARDEE**

RCA in the USA is TCL in Asia.

TCL SUN, INC. 1901 Roxbury Corporate Tower, Megatech Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Tel nos. 773200, 774200, 8074888 loc 112. Nationwide Service Center: 803136 loc. 125, 303460

ROTLINE: 8425411

The Creative Life

TCL

# Unrequited love inspires cadet to win *Body of US soldier recovered in Sulu*

From page A1

**Scenaria**  
WINTER IN KOREA  
*Enjoy the winter world of SINKW with your family!*  
DEC. 26-30, 2007

**SOUTH AMERICA**

PERU-ARGENTINA-URUGUAY-BRAZIL  
JAN. 22 - FEB. 12, 2008

ON BOARD THE AZAMARA JOURNEY

To There for the Carnival-in-Rio &amp; Visit Machu Picchu

TravelB-Bounty Inc.

Suite 312, The Burgundy Plaza, 174 B. Gonzales St., Kalayaan Ave., QC.  
Tel: 426-6835 • 426-5619 • 929-5503  
e-mail: tbbv@pacific.net.ph • Mobile Nos.: 0917-7956169 • 0917-732509

3D HongKong Free & Easy US\$ 147	4D HongKong Free & Easy US\$ 173	3D HongKong Disneydaytour US\$ 163
4D HongKong Disneydaytour US\$ 190	3D HongKong Overnight in Disney US\$ 231	4D HongKong Overnight in Disney US\$ 262
3D BANGKOK Package US\$ 170	4D BANGKOK Package US\$ 180	3D SINGAPORE Package US\$ 220
4D SINGAPORE Package US\$ 244	4D SHANGHAI Package US\$ 272	4D BEIJING Package US\$ 330

**SUNBRIGHT TOURS & TRAVEL**

Room 502, Manila Pavilion Hotel, U.N. Avenue, Ermita, Manila 1000  
• 40403567058 / 5234226 / 5235800 / 524246  
5236701 / 404276 / 404232 Fax: 5251499  
suntravel@pacific.net.ph / suntravelmmsph.com  
Business Permit No. 2006-22253

AIRFARES	EXCITING PACKAGES
HONGKONG SGD PR \$122	SIN+BANGKOK+HONGKONG \$ 498
BANGKOK SGD PR \$132	BANGKOK+SINGAPORE \$ 439
K. LUMPUR (\$5) \$ 70	KUALA LUMPUR+BANGKOK \$ 448
SINGAPORE \$100	HONGKONG+SHENZHEN (PAL) \$ 199
WEST COAST SGD\$600	2Niles HONGKONG w DISNEY \$ 228
EAST COAST \$705	KUALA LUMPUR+HONGKONG \$ 448
SEOUL (PAL) \$395	2Niles BANGKOK \$ 168
SHANGHAI \$225	2Niles SINGAPORE \$ 198
BEIJING \$385	3Niles SHANGHAI PKG (PAL) \$ 408
NARITA \$385	3Niles BEIJING PKG (PAL) \$ 418
EUROPE \$765	KUALA LUMPUR (\$5) \$ 168
AUSTRALIA \$465	2Niles SAIGON PKG \$ 258
GUAM \$125	2Niles GUAM PACKAGE \$ 192
BORACAY 4499	BALI+SINGAPORE PACKAGE \$ 539
PALAWAN 1995 / DAVAO 3995	
BOHOL 3995/CEBU 2995	
CEBU+BOHOL 7995	
ELNIDO 20,999	

MBO TOURS AND TRAVEL SERVICES
2/F MC Bldg, 1895 Pablo Ocampo corner Coching St., Makati, Manila
Tels: 409-3583 / 404-3502 / 522-1107 / 521-4744 / 484-3581
09282860119 / 0917257126 / mbo_tourtravelservices@yahoo.com

the documented clan violence occurred between 2000 and 2004. During this period, the ceasefire between the government and the Islamic front was broken many times by clan fighting. New York Times News Service

which he shared with the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Absalon surprised the audience seated at the grandstand of Borromeo Field when he delivered a heartfelt tale about his "crush," a fellow contestant from another university.

"Absalon described what he felt for this girl when the debates started, and he reflected on the many ways he could introduce himself to the girl," said Capt. Dennis Solomon, PMA public information officer.

**She had boyfriend**

"Finally, he mustered enough courage to ask the girl to the hop. His most inconvenient truth turned out to be the girl's romantic feelings. She told him she had a boyfriend," Solomon said.

The final debate matches were scheduled on recognition day for PMA Loon Alas (Lakas Tipon Alay sa Bayan) Class of 2011.

Debate participants seated themselves beside the cadets' parents to watch the proceedings, but some of them spent the time practicing their speeches.

## 'Rido' worsens conflict in South, according to study

From page A1

the documented clan violence occurred between 2000 and 2004. During this period, the ceasefire between the government and the Islamic front was broken many times by clan fighting. New York Times News Service

"The name will not be released until 24 hours after the next of kin have been notified," he said.

American military instructors, intelligence personnel and engineers have been providing combat training, weapons and intelligence help to local troops in the country's restive South since 2002. They have also participated in rural civic projects, including medical missions and road and school repairs.

They are barred by the Philippine Constitution from engaging in local combat. Their non-combat assistance has nevertheless been credited with helping the underfunded Philippine military inflict setbacks on the Abu Sayyaf, a radical group blamed for high-profile kidnappings, beheadings and bomb attacks.

In February, US Marine Cpl. Timothy Lewis died of a heart attack shortly after arriving on Jolo from his unit's base in Okinawa in southern Japan to take part in counterterrorism exercises.

Ten American soldiers also died in February 2002 when their MHE-47 Chinook helicopter crashed at sea north of this city after ferrying US Special Forces to nearby Basilan for counterterrorism maneuvers. US officials said it was unlikely hostile fire was involved. Reports from Julie Alipala, Inquirer Mindanao, and AP



B1	Beijing 3-4 Days	Tues, Fri
B2-3	Beijing, Tianjin, Chengde, Qinhuangdao 5-6 Days	
C1B-6	Beijing, Shanghai 6 Days	
H1	Shanghai 3-4 Days	Mon, Wed,
H2-3	Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou 4-6 Days	Fri
C1A	Beijing, Xian, Guilin 6-8 Days	Friday
C1B	Beijing, Shanghai, Guilin 6-8 Days	Tues, Fri
C1C	Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin 8-10 Days	Wed, Fri
G	Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Zhuhai 3-5 Days	Tues, Fri
N	Xiamen, Quanzhou, Fuzhou 3-5 Days	Friday

Grand Mercure	CROWNE PLAZA	NIKKO HOTELS International	ETON
EGYPTIAN	RAMADA	Grand New World	SHERATON

Yantze River (Three Gorges) Cruise Tour  
New Century Cruise Deluxe 5 Star

\* Century Star  
\* Viking Century Sky  
\* Viking Century Sun

(conjunction tour available)

For more details pls. contact your travel agency or e-mail to

**PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.**

479 - 481 Sto. Cristo Street, Binondo, Manila

Tels.: 242-2580 Trunk line Fax: 242-2650 ; 242-2652

<http://www.pandatour.com>

PTAA DOT153-01

CELEBRATE NEW YEAR AT THE NILE with DUBAI

Dec. 26-Jan 04

Highlights: Alexandria \* Mountain Palaces \* Aswan \* Temple of Philae \* Kom Ombo \* Edfu \* Horus Temple \*

Egypt \* Luxor \* Karnak \* Valley of the Kings \* Temple of Queen Hatshepsut \* El Dier El Bahari \* Colossi of

Memnon \* Cairo \* Pyramids \* Sphinxs \* Muhammed Ali \* Peppars & Spice Market \* El Giza \* Giza Pyramids

CRUISES

5N Caribbean 12/01 \$ 170

4N Baja Mexico 12/02 \$ 120

3N Bahamas 12/14 \$ 135

4N Asia 12/17 \$ 269

12/19 \$ 430

SOUTH AFRICA \* \$ 1875

Highlights: Cape Town \* Table Mountain \* Robben Island \* Victoria & Alfred Waterfront \*

Johannesburg \* Palace of the Lost City \* Sun City \* Safari

US\$ 1980

PIRKKO & TROY TOURS, INC.

Tel: 638-6343/638-6350/637-2094 Fax: 638-6348

Mobile: 0916-821-8459/0922-633-4465/0922-633-4316

Per DTI-NCR-Permit-No. 3564 Series of 2007

# Environmental concerns drive beauties

By Juan Escandor Jr.  
Inquirer Southern  
Luzon

PILI, CAMARINES Sur—Five beauty queens from four continents vying for the Miss Earth crown find higher cause in joining a pageant to raise people's awareness of the environment, the degradation of which they are witness to in their own countries.

Zhazira Nukhodjaera is from a city called Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan in Central Asia where the average life span is 50 years.

Describing the place as far and isolated, Nukhodjaera said the Russians conducted underground nuclear bomb tests there until 1991 when the Soviet Union crumbled.

"I have seen many maladies, with no hands and feet," she said.

#### Nuclear test

Nukhodjaera, who cannot speak the Kazakh language but Russian and English, joined the pageant to get the message out about what happened to her people and their environment.

"Nuclear testing must be stopped," she said.

Beyond the beauty pageant, Anne (pronounced En-ya) Gormley said she would continue her study on water pollution, the first part of which she has published.

Gormley has a degree in environmental science and is in her final year of doctoral studies on water pollution at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland.

She said where she's from fresh water sources are in grave risk of toxic contamination because the algae is

#### Desertification

In Africa, Millennium Olyn concerns herself with awareness campaigns on the causes and prevention of desertification.

She said she appears in talk shows and before school kids to tell them about the indiscriminate cutting of trees and bad practices that hasten desertification.

"Our country is big with only 1.8 million inhabitants but 58 percent of it is the Kalahari Desert while 38 percent is classified reserve and only 12 percent built-up areas and agricultural areas," she said.

Olyn lives in Iwangan Town in Botswana where she promotes proper garbage disposal because communities there have to be taught proper sanitation.

Norwegian Margaret Paulin Hauge fears a future without snow in winter if the depletion of the ozone layer is not stopped.

Hauge, whose mother is from Davao City, said they missed the snow in Norway last

winter because of the warm temperatures; it rained instead.

"Our country has been known for its four seasons and winter is very important to us. People come to our place to enjoy the winter holiday," she said.

Veronica Ochoa is from Ciudad (city) Cuenca in Ecuador which, she said, is very clean and where one can drink the water, but the issue of "calentamiento global" or global warming has moved her.

"One can actually do simple things like turning off lights and the refrigerator when not in use, dispose of garbage properly and recycle," she said, adding that she shares this information with students in

Cuenca.

The young women were at the CamSur Watersports Complex here over the weekend to shoot the swimsuit

competition of the pageant produced by Carousel Productions Inc.

Peachy O. Venecacion, Carousel vice president and pro-

ject director, said the pageant is a totally Filipino production that now has candidates from 85 countries, up

from 43 when it started seven years ago. The finals is on Nov. 11 at the UP Theater, Diliman, Quezon City

**Philippine Hotel Reservations Service**

**HOTEL DISCOUNTS WORLDWIDE!**

Savings at over 400 PHILIPPINE hotels and 20,000+ INTERNATIONAL destinations!  
No more calling hotels directly!

**Call 812-PHRS (812-7477)**  
Text 0928-984-2664

Mon-Sun 9-9

Unlimited Combinable rates for long stays and holidays!  
Available for check-in dates before, during, after  
National Days: Boracay, Cebu, Bohol, Tagaytay, Subic, Baguio,  
All Schools + Santa Cruz Day (Mid-Sun), Bonifacio Day (Fri-Sun),  
Christmas Day (Sat-Wed), and New Year + Eve (Fri-Tues)

**VIPER AUTO-GATE**

High Security Remote Controlled  
Swing - P35,000

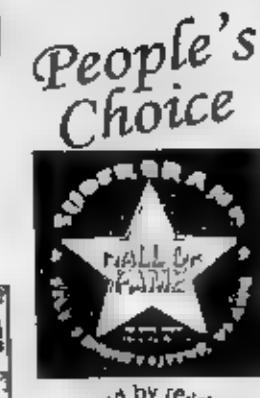
Free Installation!

**DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOUR HOUSE!**

Protect your house from termite attack!!

**ANTIBUKBOK**  
WOOD PRESERVATIVES

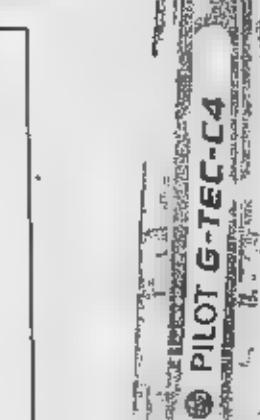
Approved by the Department of Agriculture  
for use on all wood, bamboo, rattan, metal, plastic, lumber, doors, floors, walls, beams, and insulation products.  
Always wear a mask, apron or dip applicator for all types of wood.



**GOLD 2006**  
**GOLD 2005**  
**PLATINUM 2004**  
**GOLD 2003**  
**GOLD 2002**  
**GOLD 2001**  
**GOLD 2000**  
**GOLD 1999**



**PLATINUM**



**idec**

**The New Split Type Aircon**

**Wall Mounted Aircon 1hp-P16,500**  
1.5hp-P18,500 2hp-P25,000  
2.5hp-P30,000 4hp-P43,000

**Floor Mounted Aircon 3hp-P39,500, 5hp-P55,000**  
Ceiling Mounted Aircon 3hp-P29,500, 4hp-P52, 5hp-P65,000  
Ceiling Cassette 3hp-P50,000, 5hp-P85,000

**Free Installation!**  
Available at: MC Home (Part & Ortigas) Call: 2432610, 2444731  
09177348974, Cebu: 0323485488 Davao: 0822738821 www.idec-ecom.com

**Save your Money!**  
with  
**DAVIDLINK FINGERSCANNER ACD**

**David Link**

**Your ultimate security/protection**

**Introducing the DavidLink FingerScanner ACD**

**• Wireless Connection**  
• 100% System Integrity  
• 100% System Reliability  
• 100% System Accuracy  
• 100% System Speed  
• 100% System Efficiency  
• 100% System Security  
• 100% System Protection

**• Your ultimate security/protection**

**Introducing the DavidLink FingerScanner ACD**

**• Wireless Connection**  
• 100% System Integrity  
• 100% System Reliability  
• 100% System Accuracy  
• 100% System Speed  
• 100% System Efficiency  
• 100% System Efficiency  
• 100% System Security  
• 100% System Protection

**CALL NOW: 815-1046**  
Website: edavid-link.com

**Sentinel 373-97-97**  
Sales@sentrinel.com.ph  
www.sentrinel.com.ph

**Local 153**

**Intellect MEGA**

**Intelect REGULAR LARGE**

**Smartee**

**Excel™ 2 Genesis™**

**Side Chair Arm Chair Table**

**CERTIFIED 400 LBS. LOAD TESTED**

**FURNITURE COLLECTION**

SEIKO

Powerful Performance.  
Remarkable Convenience.



**SEIKO Kinetic Diver's Watch**

Powered By The Movement Of Your Body. No Battery Change.  
"Set & Forget" Convenience.

[www.ssci.com.ph](http://www.ssci.com.ph)

Always ask for warranty card  
Service Centers offer Exclusive Quality service or limited warranty  
**FREE CHECKUP**  
THE BEST SERVICE FOR SEIKO & ALBA WATCHES AT THESE SEIKO SERVICE CENTERS  
MAIN CENTER: 2310 Maynilad Bldg., Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City TEL: (632) 886-8771 to 72 - MAKATI : Glorieta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City Tel: (632) 892-8302 - MANILA 1995 NICFLUR Bldg. cor Taft & Quirino Ave. Manila, Manila Tel: (632) 523-8676 - QUEZON CITY : #4 Lower Ground Flr., New Farmer's Plaza Araneta Center Cubao, Q.C. Tel: (632) 913-1908 - WB 206 SM City, North Ave., cor. EDSA Q.C. Tel: (632) 929-3097 - Space 1056 Level M1 Trinoma, North Triangle EDSA cor North Ave., Q.C. Tel: (632) 916-6848 - CEBU Lower Ground Flr. SM City North Reclamation Area, Cebu City Tel: (032) 232-0782 - J. Rodriguez Bldg., Osmena Boulevard, Cebu City Tel: (032) 253-5936

From SEIKO WATCH CORPORATION



**ALBA**

Available at any SEIKO Service Center and authorized Dealers nationwide

Philippines Exclusive Distributor  
**COSMOS BAZAR, INC.**  
571 Q. Paredes St., Binondo, Manila  
P.O. Box 16011, Tel.: 233-6912 to 14 Fax: 225571  
Tokyo, Japan



With SMART, it's internet-all-you-want for only P.

ENJOY HIGH-SPEED INTERNET WITH NOKIA HANDSETS FROM SMART.  
Connect your phone as a modem via a data cable and access the internet on a laptop.  
Now you can surf, email, chat, blog all you want for a flat rate of P10 per 30 minutes  
-- NO MORE PER KILOBYTE CHARGING!



NOKIA

Nokia N92

- Mobile TV-capable
- 2MP Camera
- 3G, WiFi, Bluetooth connectivity
- Large 2.8" 16M color QVGA Swivel Display
- MP3/MP4 Player & FM Radio
- Video Streaming

Nokia N77

- Mobile TV-capable
- Compact and lightweight
- 2MP Integrated camera with flash
- 3G and Bluetooth connectivity
- Wide 2.4" QVGA Screen with touch screen
- Email with attachment support
- Video Streaming

Get Nokia N92 and Nokia N77 FREE at SMART Gold Plan 2500  
Also available under SMART Buddy Prepaid. Visit any SMART Wireless Center today  
To activate your phone settings, send SET <handset model> to 211. Free of charge. Go to [www.smart.com.ph/3g](http://www.smart.com.ph/3g) for more details.

For inquiries and concerns, just access SIM connect on your SMART menu (text GET MENU to 9888 to download the SIM connect monitor)  
Get your handset from us and enjoy all-original battery and accessories • 15-day replacement warranty • 12-month service warranty

You can also enjoy internet browsing straight on your cellphone for the same flat rate.



**SMART**  
THE POWER TO LEAD

## OPINION

Text us your feedback: Inquirer opt name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



## Political suicide

**I**N THE LAST THREE DAYS, THE INQUIRER HAS sought to put last week's pardon of convicted plunderer Joseph Estrada in perspective, to explain why—even though we, like many others, saw it coming—it still came as an enormous outrage, a terrible disservice to the country and a travesty of justice.

On Friday, we criticized his lawyers' appeal to President Macapagal-Arroyo, taking them to task for the intellectual dishonesty and rank condescension of their letter.

On Saturday, we struggled with each of the three reasons the President gave for granting her predecessor executive clemency, and found them sorely wanting, trivial even. And yesterday we picked up a theme raised earlier and condemned this obscene pairing of political bedfellows; now, to repeat a phrase making the rounds, it is the People of the Philippines vs Joseph Estrada and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

One more thing needs to be said, one more attempt at perspective-setting needs to be made: On the strictly tactical level, will the President's craven bid to ensure her continuing political survival work?

On the strictly tactical level, the pardon doesn't exactly make sense. At best, it is an unnecessary risk-taking, with make-or-break consequences; at worst, it dooms the political rehabilitation, not of a disgraced former president, but an unpopular incumbent.

The notion (proposed last week by a veteran political analyst, and seconded by a few others) that Estrada could run again, and that his pardon was in exchange for protecting Ms Arroyo should he win again, is not only an absurd fantasy; it is also a legal impossibility. The Constitution bars him from running for Malacañang, the seat of government he abandoned on Jan. 20, 2001, ever again; if he files, he will be disqualified by the Commission on Elections, whoever the new commissioners will be. If he is not disqualified, a suit before the Supreme Court will settle the matter with alacrity. On this point the Constitution is unambiguous; even politicians will understand it.

To be sure, this notion conflicts with the third reason the President gave for granting Estrada executive clemency, but the conflict is of no moment: Estrada can legally run for political office other than the presidency; the only thing holding him back would be that promise not to run again and, as he told an adoring crowd gathered in the City of San Juan, engage in "dirty politics." But Ms Arroyo herself infamously made a similar commitment, and on Rizal Day yet. What makes her think Estrada will honor his own promise?

The idea that the pardon will usher in a new era of reconciliation, and that Estrada's supporters will eventually warm to Ms Arroyo, underestimates the depth of the political divide. The same adoring crowd in San Juan and the third of the electorate that conventional wisdom thinks they represent may have applauded her for releasing Estrada, but it is a stretch to imagine that they will forget, not only the former actor's six years in jail, but the election fraud she allegedly perpetrated against another actor-politician and populist icon, the late Fernando Poe Jr.

Not least, the argument that the deep dismay of the Edsa II forces caused by the pardon could be easily contained, its effect on protest campaigns or election turnout safely managed, is fatally flawed. The real power of the middle forces lies, not in the ability to elect a president, but in its capacity to unseat one. Turbulent as the President's first six years in office have been, the Estrada pardon will only make her last three years even more tumultuous. She may ride it out to the end of her term, but she will find that her act of executive clemency has limited rather than widened her options for choosing the terms of her exit.

Like many others in society interested in making the country's democratic project succeed, we have never ruled out the possibility of pardon per se. Like many others, we have always believed that support for any grant of clemency was conditional: It was a question of the timing being right, and nonnegotiable conditions (such as admission and repentance) being met. President Arroyo, however, granted Estrada pardon to meet personal and political ends. That she won't meet them is ironic; that she politicized the administration of justice is, alas for all of us, tragic.

Publisher ISAIAS YAMBOT  
Editor in Chief LATTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANO  
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO  
Associate Editor ARMANDO S. ULANAY  
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCIA-LAN

Opinion Editor JORGE V. AMITA  
News Editor ARSENIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • Chief Page One Operations NILO B. PALOMO

Chief News Desk RUBEN G. ALABASTRO

National Editor PERGENTING B. BANDAYNE JR.

Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.

Editorial Consultant AMANDO DOMONICA

Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SANPIMENTO

Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARCI R. PIÑETO

President ALEXANDRA PIÑETO-ROMALDEZ

Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing REHATO R. REBOLDO

VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE

AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON RL YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TICL

readers.advocate@inquirer.net.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

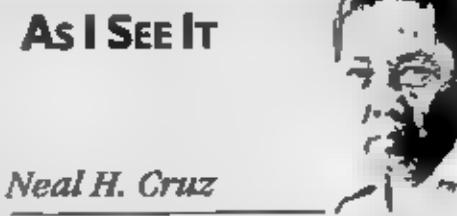
Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/opinion

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at  
—China Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascarino Sts., Makati City  
• P.O. Box 1353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City  
• Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments  
• Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 • Advertising 897-4807  
• Circulation 523-5370  
• Subscription Hotline 896-6000



## Don't vote for the drunkards

## As I See It



Neal H. Cruz

WHEN YOU GO TO THE POLLING PRECINCTS today to vote for your barangay officials, don't vote for the drunkards, the "istambays," the jobless, the good-for-nothings just because they were the ones who had the time to participate in your drinking sessions. Vote for the more responsible and educated candidates.

Candidates who attend drinking sessions night after night to campaign for votes will continue to do the same if they are elected. You, the voters, will have to subsidize their drinking habits. When a person is jobless or a mere "istambay," that's a sure indication that he is either lazy or can't find or keep a job. He will use the barangay funds to support his family. Many shiftless good-for-nothings have found positions in the barangay as an easy source of livelihood, for they don't look for jobs anymore. They just spend their days drinking and courting votes for the next election. They are the ones who will commit abuses once they are elected.

Many barangay officials have started acting like congressmen—which is the worst that any person can be compared to. They have begun to pass tax ordinances to bilk their constituents, many of whom are poor. They cannot pull their shenanigans in the enlightened villages so they victimize the poor in the squatter colonies who do not know any better—the very people who need the help, not the exploitation, of their barangays.

There are barangay courts that exact 10 percent of all monetary transactions in cases that pass through them. Let us say a squatter seeks the help of the barangay to collect a long unpaid debt. Even if the debtor is willing to pay directly to the person to whom he owes money, the barangay court will insist that he pay through it so that it can deduct 10 percent. Isn't this illegal? That is why many poor people don't go to barangay courts to settle differences but take the law into their own hands.

Other barangay officials abuse their constituents, the people they are supposed to represent. Others collect "tong" from squatters, jeepney and tricycle drivers. Instead of enforcing the

laws, they are the first to violate them. Do you remember that barangay captain in Manila who built his house in the middle of the street? It took a Dirty Harry, Mayor Alfredo Lim, to get him out of there.

What I am driving at is this: Vote wisely today. Just because a person is a lively drinking buddy doesn't mean he would make a good barangay official.

Speaker Jose de Venecia has called for a "moral revolution" to "end corruption in our society." Look who's talking!

The most corrupt agency in the Philippines is the House of Representatives. Billions of pesos of the people's money are wasted here, most of it going into private pockets. The usual whipping boys are the Bureau of Customs and Bureau of Internal Revenue but no, the House, whose members are routinely addressed as "your honor" and "honorable," is worse when it comes to corruption, beginning with the pork barrel. And that is because the Speaker tolerates and abets it. The most popular speakers are those who were fast in signing vouchers and checks. How do you think JDV cobble his Rainbow Coalition that keeps him as its Speaker year after year? In the recent cash distribution in Malacatiang, who were the recipients?

What we need is not only a "moral revolution" but a real revolution where many of our top officials will be lined up against the wall. \*\*\*

It is said among businessmen and entrepreneurs that it is very hard to do business in the Philippines because of corruption. Even

if you want to do business honestly, the bureaucracy won't let you. It will give you the runaround and very long red tape unless you grease some palms. Desk drawers in many offices are always open—so you can easily drop your peso bills there.

Ironically, it is the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor), an agency associated with gambling and its unsavory connotations, that is showing the way to transparency and fair play. It is also showing the way in pursuing its ambitious project to establish a multi-billion-peso massive tourism and entertainment complex. To be known as "Bagong Nayong Pilipino Manila Bay Integrated City," the development will rise on 40 hectares of prime reclaimed land between Roxas Boulevard and Manila Bay. There will be theme parks, amusement rides, hotels and restaurants, theaters, etc. For Pagcor is not only gambling. Much of it is amusement and entertainment.

Envisioned by Pagcor Chair Ephraim Genuino, the project will showcase a diverse range of world-class leisure and amusement facilities while offering a taste of the tropical charm of our country and the warm hospitality of our people.

At no cost to the government, the project is expected to bring in at least \$15 billion in foreign and local investments, create more than 250,000 jobs for the local workforce and generate millions of direct tourist receipts and additional government revenues.

Realizing the value of transparency and fair play in upholding the integrity of public projects of this magnitude, Pagcor has made public through its website the terms of reference (TOR) for the guidance of prospective investors.

Also, to clarify any questions on the TOR, Pagcor held an Investors' Conference for would-be locators, who have now started submitting their applications for licenses to participate in this development. The investors have been assured that they would be informed immediately whether or not their applications have been accepted and, in case of disapproval, the reason behind the decision.

## Pardonee and pardoner

## THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



the finer aspects of morality.

That brings us to the heart of the matter, which is that the issue of Erap's pardon isn't as black and white as we always want things to be. The question isn't just whether Erap deserves to be pardoned or not, the question is also whether GMA has the right to pardon him or not.

Whether Erap deserves to be pardoned or not, we can debate to our hearts' content and come to no conclusion. I myself share the outrage of NOPE, Bayan Muna and the various participants of Edsa II, about the pardon and agree with them that this sends a wrong signal to the corrupt and unholly past, present and future.

That is so notwithstanding that I also know that public opinion favors a pardon. That was clear in the SWS survey before the Sandiganbayan convicted Erap—which is probably why Malacatiang thought of this pardon even then, this is by no means "hasty," as critics charge—that showed the majority amenable to a pardon immediately or soon if Erap were found guilty. It's not really stupidity on the part of the *masa*. It's human nature. It's hard to be furious about the sins of the past, or even remember them, when you are bombarded daily with the sins of the present. That's what happened too during Cory's time: The pillage of Marcos cronies receded in public memory with the spectacle of the pillage of Kamag-anak Inc.

We can debate to our hearts' content whether Erap deserves to be pardoned or not, but we may not debate whether GMA has the right to pardon Erap or not: She does not. Hell, we may not even debate if she has the right to rule this country, much less pardon anyone: She does not—not after "Hello Gari." This is one case where the onus of proof of innocence or guilt is put more on the judge than the judged. The question isn't just: Should Erap be pardoned? The question is: Should GMA be pardoned?

That is for neither of them to decide. That is for the people to. There will be a day of reckoning, and if the surveys are also to be believed, that should come immediately, or soon.

NOPE (NO PARDON FOR ESTRADA) SAYS IT'S "the saddest moment in history as far as justice is concerned." "This is a very bad precedent, considering that we're supposed to be teaching our politicians not to be corrupt and to exercise good governance," says Dante Ang, a NOPE convener.

Fidel Ramos says GMA made a mistake to pardon Erap because Erap was still capable of doing to her what she did to him. Erap's influence may have dwindled, he says, but it hasn't completely dissipated. He remains a threat to her. In any case, he says, Erap himself has not admitted his crimes and publicly apologized to the nation to deserve a pardon. The two former Korean presidents—Chun Doo-hwan and Roh Tae-woo—did so before they were pardoned by their successor. That is a prerequisite. "A lawyer cannot stand for the guilt of his client. (Erap himself must do so.)"

Well, yes and no to both. As far as NOPE is concerned, nope, the Erap pardon isn't the saddest day in Philippine justice, a lot more is infinitely sadder. Not the least Edita Burgos pursuing a lonely and increasingly solitary quest for justice while the (non-)President feels free to tell the UN with a straight face she does not abide human rights violations in her country.

Indeed, even sadder than Erap's pardon is NOPE's own myopic quest to deny Erap—and only Erap—pardon. If I recall right, during martial law, the name of one of the organizations that fought it was "Justice for Ninoy, Justice for All." NOPE should have said yup to that, history being the thing they claim to have as their backdrop. The better project would have been: No Pardon for Erap, No Pardon for Everyone. The acronym might have sounded a little wretched, "NOPE-NOPE," but the concept would not. The point is simple: Justice is universal or not at all. You don't get justice for all, you don't get justice for Ninoy. You don't get justice by jailing those who committed or committed the same or more spectacular crimes than Erap, you don't get justice simply by not pardoning Erap.

While at this, what Ramos fails to mention is that, as the South Korean case shows, to be pardoned you have to wait for a higher authority to pardon you after you have apologized to the nation. You may not pardon yourself, or worse reward yourself for your crime. Less we forget, GMA herself never admitted her crime of stealing the vote—she herself ruled calling Gari was just a "lapse in judgment"—and after apologizing robotically to the nation ("I looked into your eyes and saw no contrition there," as Susan Roces put it) pardoned herself and decreed the terms of her pardon to include continuing to serve as President.

Still while at this, what Ramos fails to mention is that he went along with this monstrosity and propped up GMA just when the nation had discovered the principle of Justice upon Erap, Justice upon GMA. He (and Jose de Venecia) should really stop lecturing this country about

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

## OPINION

A15

## The prosecutor's lament

## SOUNDING BOARD

*Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.*

process had ended in the imposition of a punishment, which it did not

Joseph Estrada received no punishment from the impeachment that was started against him. The impeachment process was never concluded in fact, even if it had been concluded, the only punishment he could have received would have been removal from office and disqualification from holding office in the government.

But Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo did not restore him to the presidency. She could not have done so even if she wanted to. Neither did she lift a disqualification from office that would have been imposed by an impeachment court, that is, the Senate. Rather, the disqualification she partially lifted was one imposed by the Sandiganbayan upon the plea of the Special Prosecutor. This had nothing to do with his failed impeachment. To say that it resulted from impeachment would dim the luster of the Special Prosecutor's success.

I also said earlier that there are only three specific limitations on the power to pardon. Is there perhaps an unspecified limitation?

We do have that provision in the Constitution which says that judicial power includes the power "to determine whether or not there has been grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack or excess of jurisdiction on the part of any instrumentality of agency of the government." We know and we have seen this applied to independent bodies like the Commission on Elections, the Commission on Appointments and the Electoral Tribunals. It can be applied by the Court to the President even if ever so gingerly.



## Pardon mocks values we teach

WE, THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS of the College Faculty Association of Miriam College and veterans of EDSA II, vehemently denounce the granting of pardon to former President Joseph Estrada.

After our nation went through the tumult of EDSA II because of his scandal-ridden presidency, after the riotous response of his followers in "EDSA III," after six long years that the Ombudsman spent in careful, courageous and thorough presentation of witnesses and documents before the Sandiganbayan and after the vigorous defense by his brilliant legal team, he was found guilty of plunder beyond reasonable doubt.

Our criminal justice system has affirmed the judgment that our people rendered in People Power II. The nation is now supposed to be in a position to move on, with its belief in our justice system re-

stored and with some of our national pride retrieved. We should now look forward to making other corrupt officials accountable before our people and our justice system. But we cannot do all this with the grant of pardon to Estrada. Clearly, the government would not let us move on.

For political expediency, legislators and Malacañang offered pardon for the unrepentant and arrogant convict; one who shamelessly plundered and disgraced our beloved nation has been absolved of his crime by President Macapagal-Arroyo who herself is hounded by so many scandals.

Miriam College stands for truth, justice, peace and integrity. Truth was impartially bared with the Sandiganbayan decision. Justice will not be served if Estrada escapes his sentence. And peace

will be a long time coming because with this precedent, grafters will continue to rob our country, unafraid of the full force of the law; and socioeconomic disparities in our country will worsen.

Education is extremely difficult when the school teaches good citizenship while the country's leaders make a mockery of it. For the sake of our children and our future, pardon should not be given without Estrada (not his lawyers) apologizing to the Filipino people and without justice being rendered first.

—RAUL R. ALEJANDRINO,  
president,  
Miriam College Faculty  
Association,  
Caritas CRA Office,  
Miriam College,  
Loyola Heights,  
Katipunan Road, Quezon City

THIS IS IN REFERENCE TO THE news report "After denials, local officials own cash gifts." (INQUIRER, 10/24/07) After all the ruckus, the League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP) finally admitted to handing out the money. This is a straight-out insult to the intelligence of Filipinos.

Why were there no vouchers? Are public monies handed out so casually in paper bags even? Shouldn't there be more internal controls in the disbursement of government funds? And if the monies were given out under the auspices of the LPP, shouldn't the recipients have been made aware of the gifts beforehand?

The simplistic and highly irregular explanation of the LPP needs to be investigated vigorously. Enough already.

—RALPH PENA,  
ralph.pena@mca.com

## Nothing wrong with Miriam 'mission'

THANK YOU FOR INFORMING the public about Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago's campaign for a seat in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ("Miriam wants to campaign for int'l court on 'official mission,'" INQUIRER, 10/18/07).

It is both a long-standing tradition and standard Senate procedure to mark "On Official Mission" any senator discharging government functions, such as delivering a speech or even crowning a fiesta queen. There is nothing wrong if the senator requests to be marked "On Official Mission," after all, the ICJ bid is not her personal project but a project of the Republic of the Philippines, through the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Candidates of other countries follow more or less the same campaign schedule as that of the senator. If the Philippines does not campaign in the same way, it will

never have a serious chance of winning the ICJ seat. Election in the World Court is mostly a political process.

Senator Santiago's foreign relations committee has already concluded public hearings on the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement according to the published schedule. Subsequent hearings were set upon the request of Sen. Edgar

Angara. Senator Santiago will discharge her Senate functions in between her trips abroad. She must follow the campaign schedule set by the DFA, despite suffering from clinically diagnosed chronic fatigue syndrome. Thus, she will have a very grueling year.

—PATIMA LIPP  
D. PANONTONGAN,  
deputy chief of staff,  
Office of Sen. Miriam  
Defensor-Santiago,  
mdsmmediabureau@yahoo.com

## P1B fund not enough

THE P1 BILLION BUDGET ALLOTTED BY REP Edcel Lagman for family planning causes a great deal of concern for us, health care workers at the forefront in taking care of our very sick countrymen.

I am one of the few nurses who chose to work in the Philippines despite the pest-infested health facilities in our country and the lure of high-tech amenities abroad. Since my graduation from the University of the Philippines in 1993, I have worked in government hospitals in Manila and under-served barangays in Laguna.

Many of our people endure their ailments until they can hardly breathe because of the skyrocketing costs of medical care. In hospitals, we have had children whose limbs were as thin as a twig and whose bellies, bloated by parasitism, made them gasp for breath. The children had only a few days to live—like the adults with end-stage tuberculosis who came to the emergency room vomiting blood. The few coins left in their pockets were not enough to bring them to TB referral centers, while their families had their last meal a day before.

Such is the heartrending reality that we health workers confront every day in our country. And our plight is the same as our patients' since we don't have the needed supplies and facilities to take care of them. Oftentimes, we recycle medical gadgets; we improvise devices to aid the breathing of our critically ill patients. Gloves are so scarce that many times we find ourselves handling bodily secretions with our bare hands. Masks are considered rare commodities in government hospitals. So, it is not surprising that many of us health workers contract TB and other communicable diseases ourselves. This further aggravates our long-standing problem re staff shortage where one nurse takes care of 20, 30 or even 80 patients.

We need a higher budget for the health care personnel and facilities. The condoms and IUDs will not help us save the life of a patient bleeding internally because of dengue, or an infant crying without tears because of severe diarrhea. The majority of our illnesses are due to malnutrition and are preventable—diarrhea, parasitism, respiratory infections, etc. We need funds to disseminate health information to our remotest barangays. Aside from strengthening the primary health care services at the grass-roots level, we need to equip the secondary and tertiary health facilities of the government especially in the countryside.

To allocate P1 billion for population management does not make sense in this poverty-stricken, illness-plagued country. All the more, when we hear many countries actually promoting population growth.

We need a higher budget for health personnel and facilities to be able to properly take care of our sick countrymen. We need food especially for our children who will suffer in their whole lifetime the consequences of hunger in their first years of life.

—LOURDES MARIE TEJERO,  
assistant professor,  
University of the Philippines Manila

## Matubis fed wrong info

I WRITE IN REACTION TO THE OCT. 18 LETTER of Jesus Matubis Jr. regarding the Maynilad digging at H. Lopez Boulevard corner Infanta Street, Balut, Tondo, Manila. I want to inform Matubis that I did not send the picture to the INQUIRER.

What I did was to text Metro Citizen's Call, seeking help to hasten the almost two-month-old MWSS digging. I texted second week of September and I think the INQUIRER took the photo of the unfinished excavation work first week of October. It was published Oct. 8, 2007. If the photo had been taken earlier, it would have shown a worse scenario.

Matubis stated in his letter that the digging was finished as early as Sept. 6, 2007 and that the area became passable to vehicles on Sept. 13, 2007.\* I think he was given the wrong information by his subordinates.

For the whole month of September, we had to bear with anger-provoking traffic caused by the unfinished Maynilad digging. The fact is, the digging was permanently cemented only late in the second week of October. I should know better; I live here.

I don't blame Matubis, I'm sure he was fed incorrect information by his men who wanted to earn "pogi points." I just want to let him know what really happened.

I want to thank the INQUIRER for helping us get the attention of Maynilad. Likewise, we are glad to know that Maynilad has found a way to improve water service in Balut, Tondo.

—ALICIA E. ESTRELLADO,  
aestrellado@shoo.com.ph



## Magkasama tayo sa tuloy-tuloy na pag-aayat

Tuloy-tuloy n'ye po kaming unang plnakiknggen sa Mega Manila, kung kaya't tuloy-tuloy na nangunguna ang DZMM sa latest AC Nielsen Media Research Survey.

Inspirade po kaming maglIngkad para sa ika-aengat ng inyong buhay.

**Maraming, maraming salamat, Kapamilya.**

ACN PLAY				
Mega Manila		1	DZMM	1.0
6am-12mn	7.9			7.9

Source: Comparative Station Performance of AM Radio Stations Q3, 2007 NMR Mega Manila (Radio Audience Measurement)



Una sa Balita. Una sa Public Service.

# Estrada watched by opposition allies

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE OPPOSITION IS MONITORING closely the words and actions of former President Joseph Estrada for tell-tale signs that he has changed his colors and has jumped over to the side of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"His future actions and demeanor in confronting issues and controversies bounting Gloria Macapagal Arroyo can judge his political persuasion. Accepting a position in government under Mrs. Arroyo will be an instant giveaway," said Sen. Panfilo Lacson in a text message to the Inquirer.

Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III said Estrada's acceptance of a government position from her nemesis would certainly "confuse" his opposition allies.

"He was one of the leaders of the opposition, it will be confusing if he will have to support all these things represented by President Arroyo. It will be a complete turnaround and it will be difficult for his loyalists to understand," said Aquino in an interview.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. doubted Estrada would accept a government position from the President because it would be "sincidal."

#### Beyond redemption

"Gloria is beyond redemption and anyone who allies with her would also self-destruct along with the administration," said Pimentel.

"I want to emphasize that we in the Senate opposition are not going to change tact or our di-

rection simply because of the pardon. We will continue to stand up to fight for the rights of the people," he said.

Except for thanking the President in his speech on the night of his return to Polk Street as a free man, Estrada has so far not shown any wavering from his stand as an opposition, said Aquino.

Sen. Jamby Madrigal said the pardon only legitimized Ms Arroyo's power grab in 2001. She said that Estrada's acceptance of any position in the Arroyo administration "would make a mockery of the six years he spent in jail and destroy whatever principles he has left."

#### Politics of transaction

Lacson urged members of the opposition to continue their "fiscalizing" role and not let

themselves be affected by what he called "politics of transaction."

"This has dominated the overall policy direction of this administration in all the years of its existence," he said.

"There's too much corruption and abuse as there is evident poverty and unequal justice and wealth everywhere that nobody, not even Erap, can get in the way of the opposition's role to help provide the check and balance as well as a better alternative to the misgovernance of the Arroyo regime," he said.

Aquino said he continued to endorse the pardon of Estrada not only because of old age but also because granting him executive clemency could pave the way for true dialogue and bring down the tension between the warring factions in the country.

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

Anyway, he said he did not think Estrada went out that day.

Estrada did, though, leaving his posh residence to visit his ailing mother in the hospital.

Puno said that Estrada again told him to convey to President Macapagal Arroyo his and his family's appreciation

for the pardon granted him on Friday.

Estrada also thanked him for his help and told him how he would not forget it, said Puno.

Puno said that he later told the President about Estrada's message. "OK. Good, good" was Ms Arroyo's reply, he said.

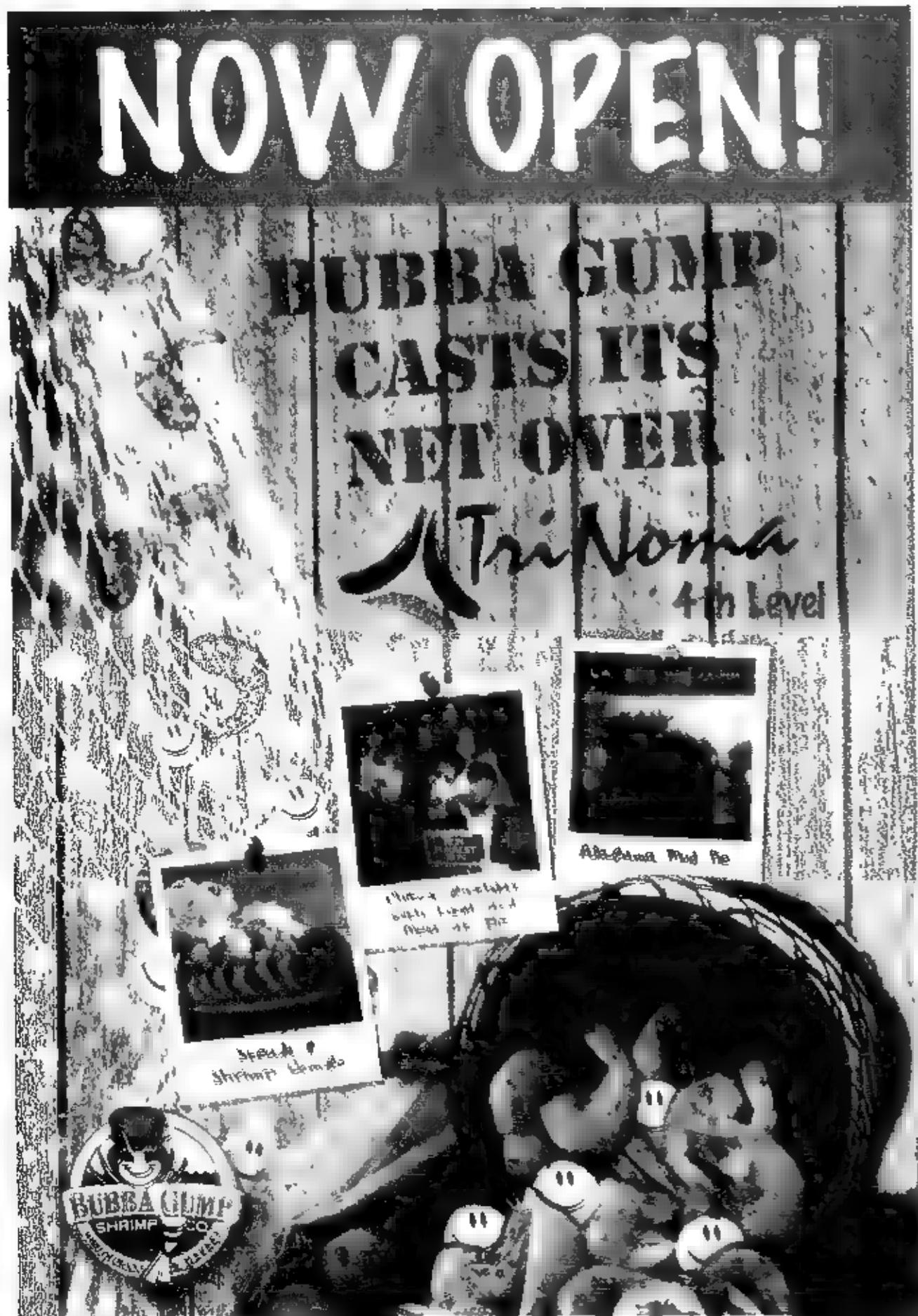
He said Ms Arroyo had already "moved ahead from this issue and gone to the next difficult one, which is getting all her economic projects implemented."

Puno said he told Estrada that it was part of the Greenhills complex in San Juan, which is near the neighbor-

hood of the famous resident at No 1 Polk Street.

The secretary later said Estrada might have been joking about not knowing about the Greenhills hangout.

# Rebel soldiers offered jobs as VIP bodyguards



From page A1

detention without formal charges and a dishonorable dismissal?

The 26 dismissed Rangers found out last week P5,000 each as a "humanitarian" gesture from the Philippine Army and offers from individuals to serve as bodyguards to VIPs.

One of them, Cpl. Medel Calda, told the INQUIRER in a phone interview yesterday that of the amount, P1,000 was for transportation and the rest was the Army's "cash assistance."

Army spokesperson, Lt. Col. Ernesto Torres, said that the money was meant to augment the soldiers' expenses for their immediate needs, such as food and transportation, following their release.

#### Welfare fund

"It was part of a humanitarian consideration. The Army has a morale and welfare fund for this purpose," Torres said by phone.

Torres added that the Rangers would receive their salaries until the end of this month.

Of course, Calda said, P5,000 was not enough to tide the dismissed Rangers over until they find new jobs to support their families.

He and his fellow Rangers have been offered jobs and recommended for various employment, including serving as bodyguards to very important persons (VIPs).

But Calda, 33, said he was still deciding if he wanted to be a security aide.

#### 3-year-old son

Apparently, Calda wants to be practical. He has a 3-year-old son with his wife Sharon.

"I'd rather have a more stable job," Calda told the INQUIRER in Filipino.

Calda added that the Army's personnel department had offered to "help" the dismissed soldiers, after telling them that they could still appeal the decision of the Army chief, Lt. Col. Alexander Yano.

"But I really don't know what kind of help they meant," he said.

#### Deeply hurt

Calda said he and his fellow Rangers were deeply hurt by the Army's decision. To them, they had served the Armed Forces of the Philippines well.

Calda had been with the Army for more than nine years and had fought communist guerrillas in Quezon, Mindoro, Laguna, Batangas and several provinces in Bicol, and the Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan and Jolo.

His colleagues are just as battle-tested.

Indeed, Calda said, with the assistance of their lawyer, their group would seek a reconsideration of Yano's decision.

He and his fellow soldiers want to leave the service with a clean record, and not with the stigma of a "dishonorable discharge," especially since that they are trying to rebuild their lives and move on, Calda said.

"Some of us still want to go back to the service but for

others, it's OK to leave the service but not because of a 'dishonorable discharge,'" he said.

#### Lost benefits

Calda emphasized that the dismissed soldiers were aware that it would be difficult for them to find employment with a sullied record.

Moreover, they would lose all the benefits and privileges that they had worked for as part of the military.

"Lucky for those who would be recommended for work by influential people. But what would happen to you if you'll apply for a job on your own and you'll have to say that your dismissal from the service was because of a dishonorable discharge?" Calda said.

#### Intercepted in Sipocot

Calda's unit was accused by the military of attempting to join the supposed mass action at the EDSA Shrine against the Arroyo administration in February last year. They were intercepted at a checkpoint in Sipocot, Camarines Sur.

But their lawyer, Vicente Verdadero, said the unit's movement came from a legitimate order and, in fact, the troops were on their way back to their headquarters in Albay.

Their commanding officer, Lt. Jacon Cordero, and executive officer, Lt. Richiemel Caballes, are still detained at Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, with 14 other Rangers and 26 fellow officers from the First Scout Ranger Regiment and Philippine Marines, who were tagged as leaders of the alleged coup attempt.

#### Without due process

"We were never given due process. It was done just like that. We were given a dishonorable discharge. We are only hoping for an explanation," Calda said.

In dismissing the soldiers, the Army said its investigations found a "preponderance of evidence" that the 26 soldiers violated Articles of War 67 (mutiny) and 97 (conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline).

The soldiers were detained for more than a year at Camp Capinpin without formal charges.

On Wednesday, they were taken from the Army camp and brought to the Army headquarters in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, where they were served their discharge notice.

Two days later, the 28 detained military officers expressed their disgust over the dismissal of their men, which they blamed on Armed Forces chief of staff, Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr.

#### Electoral fraud

In an unsigned statement, the group said that through Yano, the military chief chose to dismiss the Rangers instead of facing their challenge for him to answer allegations that he took part in the electoral fraud in 2004.

The detained military officers, led by former Marine commandant Major Gen. Renato Miranda, former First Scout Ranger Regiment commander, Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, and Medal of Valor awardee, Marine Col. Arie Querubin, are charged with mutiny for allegedly leading the botched February coup.

## Scientists scan world ...

From page A1

track ... We will wait until we know there's no tsunami," he said, as everyone in the room closely watched the operation center's main display screen flashing information about the event.

#### Off Bengkulu, Sumatra

The magnitude readings at first fluctuated until they settled at 7.1 a few minutes later. The map showed that the quake hit some 135 kilometers off the southwestern town of Bengkulu in Sumatra, an area that has been a center of seismic activity in recent years.

The tremor occurred at 4:02 a.m. local time (Indonesia) or 11:02 a.m. in Hawaii, weeks after the Sept. 12 quake in the same area that killed 23 people. Seventeen minutes later, another alert terminal sounded off to signal that surface waves from the epicenter had reached the Pacific though not at destructive levels.

The PTWC, an agency under the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Noaa), readily issued a local tsunami watch for nearby coastal areas.

Relayed to Indonesian authorities, the watch warned that "a local tsunami ... could affect coasts" within 100 kilometers from the epicenter, but cited that "a destructive, widespread tsunami threat does not exist."

#### Tide gauge

Hunkered down at their terminals, seven scientists were on the operation center's floor anticipating a potential deadly wave. On normal shifts, there would only be two of them. The whole team was waiting for the update from a tide gauge in Padang, Indonesia, the one closest to the quake's epicenter.

The team wanted to confirm whether tide patterns in the area would bring dangerous waves to shore as the gauge was located near the tremor's origin, said Stuart Weinstein, PTWC deputy director.

"I'm so sorry we had to make an earthquake for you guys today. Next time, it won't be so close to home," Weinstein jokingly told the visitors, among whom was a journalist from Indonesia.

"This is perfect timing," joked Director Charles McCreery.

Indeed, what were the chances of a quake happening at the same hour the PTWC was giving a briefing to reporters?

#### No damage

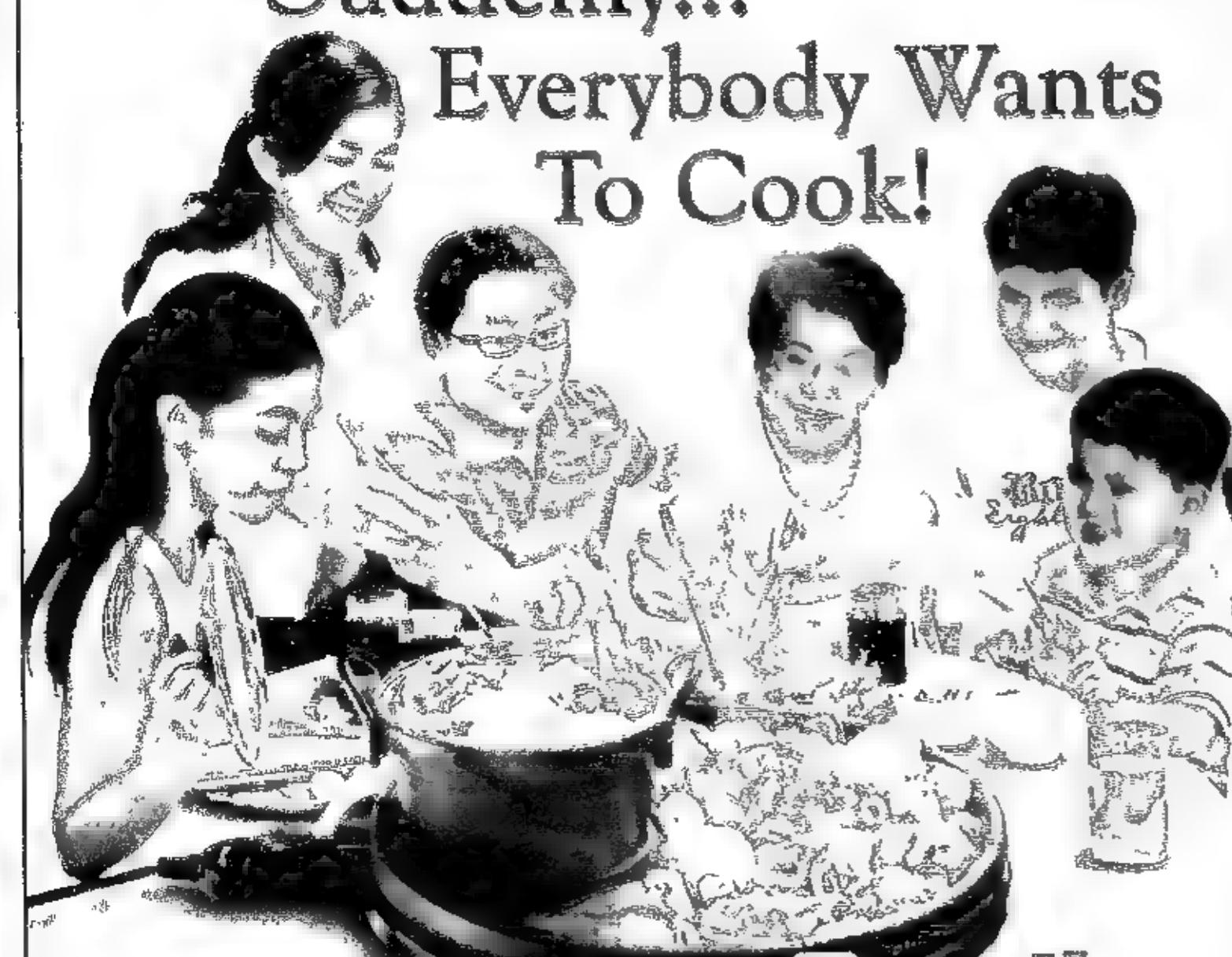
Around an hour and a half after issuing an initial bulletin, the PTWC ended the local watch raised over Indonesia. It was learned later that there were no known damage, injuries or deaths that resulted from the latest temblor.

"No tsunami waves were observed by the coastal gauge at Padang or by the deep ocean gauge off central Sumatra. Based on this information, the local tsunami watch is ended," read the bulletin.

While primarily tasked with watching over movements within the Pacific Ocean, the warning center looks over the Indian Ocean and surrounding countries as well for a separate warning center for the area continued.

The PTWC works closely with the US Geological Survey, with a partner warning center in Alaska, and with meteorological and geophysical monitoring units around the world for an effective and timely delivery of tsunami warnings to coastal villages near the site of offshore quakes.

## Suddenly... Everybody Wants To Cook!



Who says only Moms can cook?

Take the cooking out of the kitchen and let the family join in the fun. With Powell Hot Pot Grill, everyone can take cooking together right at the dinner table! There's sure to be a meal to work up an appetite with soup simmering in a hot pot, while a specially designed nonstick hotplate grills the meat, seafood and vegetables to perfection as it drains off excess oils into a tray at the bottom. It's a healthy and delicious way to enjoy your favorite foods!

Treat the family to a fun dining experience with Powell Hot Pot Grill!

Other features: Non-stick / non-drip pot • Non-stick grill pan • Tempered glass cover for easy protection • Easy heat selection levels • Detachable oil drip tray for easy cleaning • Easy switch thermostatic control • Six meal-ready BBQ sticks • Detachable AC cord

**Dowell**  
**HOT POT**  
**GRILL**





**CAMPAIGN IN CEMETERIES**

While cemeteries in San Pablo City are being prepared for the two-day celebration of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, candidates continue to post campaign paraphernalia even on walls of graveyards like this one.

## NEW LOWER Year-round Fares

**SEAT SALE****P7**

**Cebu to Bacolod,  
Clark, Davao, Kalibo  
or Puerto Princesa**

Sale Period: October 22 to 27, 2007  
Travel Period: November 15, 2007 to February 29, 2008

\*Promo is non-refundable.

**P999**

Taipei\*  
Guangzhou  
Xiamen

**P1,499**

Bangkok  
Hong Kong\*  
Kuala Lumpur  
Macau

**P1,999**

Jakarta  
Singapore\*  
Shanghai

All direct flights to/from Manila  
\*Also with direct flights to/from Cebu

**P98**

Cebu to Iloilo  
Manila to Laoag • Legaspi

**P288**

Cebu to Cagayan de Oro • Zamboanga  
Davao to Zamboanga  
Manila to Bacolod • Cebu • Dumaguete • Iloilo  
Kalibo • Puerto Princesa • Roxas • Tacloban • Tagbilaran

**P688**

Manila to Boracay (Caticlan) NEW!  
Cebu to Boracay (Caticlan) NEW!  
Manila to Butuan • Cagayan de Oro • Cotabato  
Davao • Dipolog • General Santos • Zamboanga

**CEBU PACIFIC IS THE NO. 1 DOMESTIC AIRLINE!**

MOST DOMESTIC DESTINATIONS • MOST DOMESTIC FLIGHTS • MOST DOMESTIC ROUTES • NEWEST PLANES  
MOST DOMESTIC PASSENGERS FLOWN - LOWEST YEAR-ROUND FARES

Domestic fuel and insurance surcharges range from PHP 800 to PHP 2,500.  
International fuel and insurance surcharges range from USD 25 to USD 44.

**CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM**

Call (02) 70-20-888 or visit the travel agent nearest you.



## Revoke pact with PPA, landowners ask gov

BATANGAS CITY—LANDOWNERS AND heirs of a 40-hectare property here have asked Gov. Vilma Santos-Recto to revoke a 2003 memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the provincial government and the Philippine Ports Authority which allegedly deprived them of their ownership rights.

Teodulfo Tolentino, who represents 179 private landowners in Barangays Bolbok, Sta. Clara and Sta. Rita, said the group would be forced to "summon her again" to appear before the Ombudsman Public Assistance Bureau for not acting on the complaint it raised three months ago.

The memorandum proposed to develop the property into an economic zone for the Batangas Port Development Project Phase 3 (BPDP-Phase 3) within five years.

It was signed on July 12, 2003 by then Gov. Hermilando Mandanas and then PPA general manager Alfonso Cusi, and will expire next year.

Under the MOU, the province would acquire the land and shoulder cost of improvements for zone development, while the PPA would construct, develop and maintain Phase 3 of the port.

The agreement will automatically become ineffective if the provincial government "failed to develop the delineated area into an economic zone."

Tolentino said the document was executed without the landowners' knowledge. "For most of us, our property is our lifeline. Sadly, our lifeline and our dreams were being mercilessly trampled upon," he said in an Oct. 15 letter to Recto and the provincial board.

In a hearing in August, PPA port manager Alex Cruz said that under the MOU, the landowners should first seek permission from the provincial government before selling their property.

He noted that the land could not be used for purposes other than "port-related" since it was declared a port zone by then President Corazon Aquino.

Provincial administrator Victor Reyes said Recto was sticking to the plan of the previous provincial administrations to develop the area for port-related purposes.

Instead of pushing for its revocation, Reyes believed the landowners could wait for the MOU to expire in June next year.

In their letter, Tolentino said the landowners tried five times but failed to meet with the governor since July 30.

On Aug. 10, Recto's representative, provincial legal officer Joel Montealto, finally met with them and advised them that the province would have a decision "within two weeks."

Tolentino said he had not heard anything from Montealto or any representative from the province since then, forcing the group to request the Ombudsman for mediation and assistance.

The Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees or Republic Act No. 6713 states that all public officials and employees should respond to letters, telegrams or other means of communication sent by the public "within 15 working days from receipt thereof."

The law also indicates that the given reply should contain the action taken on the request.

On Sept. 17, Opab director Marlyn Torres-Galvez issued a notice to Recto, Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza and the PPA port manager requesting them to appear before the Oct. 1 mediation proceedings with the landowners.

Recto sent Montealto as her representative to the hearing. Marlon Alexander Luis, Inquirer Southern Luzon

## SUSUNOD KA NA!

2,235 pirated CDs and 5,000 pirated DVDs. Matigas 30 na kumpanya ang na-raids.

2.1 billion pesos ang total na rebaseyo. Hindi pa kailan tapos ka pag-augop.

# 5 dead in Catanduanes landslides; 3 missing

VIRAC, CATANDUANES—HEAVY rains induced by a low pressure area on Saturday caused flooding and numerous landslides, which killed five people in Baras town, disaster officials said yesterday.

Gov. Joseph C. Cua, Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC) chair, said the towns hit by landslides include Baras, Bato, San Miguel, San Andres and Caramoran.

He identified the fatalities in Baras town, 24 kilometers from this capital town, as Nelson Tanael, 37; Michelle Tenorio, 27; Nicole Marvin Tanael, 4; and, Reinhard Tanael, 3, all from Barangay Bagong Sirang.

The other fatality was 10-year-old Carmela Olat of Barangay Osmeña.

The number and names of those injured were not yet available as of press time.

Cua added that three fishermen from Bato town had been reported missing.

The landslide-hit areas were the villages of Balongbong and Sibacungan in Bato; Boton, Pangilao, Buhi, and Siay in San Miguel; Lubas, Borocbosoc and Cabungahan in San Andres; Panabanan and Deriao in Caramoran; and Batolino, Salvacion, Tilod, Paniquian and Putaran in Baras.

The routes to the northern towns along the circumferential road as well as the Bato-Baras-Gigmoto national secondary road have been blocked by landslides, Cua said.

Lt. Henry Pabelonio, commander of Alpha Company of the Army's 65th Infantry Battalion, said a chopper was on its way to Catanduanes to deliver election paraphernalia and conduct a reconnaissance survey of the landslide-hit areas.

The heavy rains, which began past 10 a.m. on Saturday until after midnight Sunday, was induced by an active low pressure

area that remained stationary at 40 kilometers north of Catanduanes as of Sunday morning.

Knee-deep water from overflowing canals flooded four areas in the capital town, hindering vehicular traffic and stranding scores of light vehicles, tricycles and motorcycles.

Cabugao Bay turned muddy brown as silt, earth and debris washed away from the mountains cascaded down the rivers and streams.

The Naval Southern Luzon Command immediately dispatched one patrol gunboat carrying relief goods to Catanduanes.

In Camarines Sur, the continu-

ous downpour on Saturday evening caused flooding in 19 towns, including Baao, Bato, Nabua, Buhi, Bula, Pili, Bombon, Cabusao, Calabanga, Camaligan, Canaman, Gairita, Libmanan, Magarao, Milao, Minalabac and San Fernando and the cities of Iriga and Naga, a report from the Office of Civil Defense (OCD)-Bicol said.

The OCD coordinated with the Coast Guard for deployment of rescue boats in Nabua, which was experiencing 5-foot floodwaters on Sunday that stranded scores of vehicles.

The Naval Southern Luzon Command sent five rescue teams

on board M35 trucks and mini-cruiser with two rubber boats.

The report said Naga River reached its full bank capacity with 1.8 meters above normal rate while three villages in Naga City were also flooded.

In Albay, the flooded areas included the low-lying areas of Ligbon, Oao and Polangui towns and Ligao City.

As of 5 a.m. Sunday, the weather bureau reported an active low pressure area 40 km north of Catanduanes or 150 km east of Camarines Norte. Fernan Gianan with a report from Ephraim Aguilar, Inquirer Southern Luzon

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Brownout hits Mindanao

DAVAO CITY—The power outage that hit most parts of Mindanao on Sunday afternoon was traced to a technical glitch that affected the Mindanao grid, according to M. Irance Capulong, communications officer of the National Transmission Corp.

Capulong said initial findings showed that the Abaga Agus Line 1 conductor flashover at the National Power Corp. plant in Iligan City melted, causing the power outage at around 1:04 p.m.

The power outage hit the cities of Cotabato, Davao, Kidapawan, General Santos, Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Iligan, Malaybalay, Digos, Tagum, Mati, Tacurong and Koronadal, and most provinces of Central Mindanao, Southern Mindanao, Northern Mindanao and the Caraga Region.

As of 5 p.m., power has been restored in most areas.

Dennis Jay Santos, Inquirer Mindanao

### Village chief bet held

LEGAZPI CITY—A candidate for barangay captain was jailed Sunday after combined elements of the National Bureau of Investigation and police arrested him at Barangay Victory Village here for possession of a live grenade, packs of suspected shabu, and sample ballots with cash.

During a search operation, Joseph Vargas yielded a live grenade, 8 packs of suspected shabu, bundled money worth P150,000, and sample ballots enclosed with P100 to P200 each, added awtar Tom Enrila, NBI Legazpi agent in charge. Ephraim Aguilar, Inquirer Southern Luzon

### Antimeasles drive in Kalinga

CITY OF TABUK—Health officials were targeting 31,000 children in its antimeasles drive in Kalinga.

Dr. Romulo Gaerlan, provincial health officer, said at least 1,000 children in the province have been given antimeasles vaccines since the campaign "Knockout Tigdas 2007" was launched last week.

The activity followed two mass immunization campaigns in 1998 and 2004. Gaerlan said children age nine months to four years would be given antimeasles vaccine until Nov. 15. Desiree Caluza, Inquirer Northern Luzon

### 3 nabbed in Davao for drugs

DAVAO CITY—The incidents of summary executions targeting suspected criminals here apparently failed to deter drug pushers from continuing with their trade. On Oct. 24, police arrested three suspected illegal drug pushers during separate occasions.

SP03 Edgar Fernandez of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency said the first to fall was Glen Siega, 25, a resident of Sandawa Avenue who yielded about 0.5 grams of suspected methamphetamine hydrochloride during a buy-bust operation. At around 9:30 p.m. in Torril District, they arrested Edgardo Taguema, 47, and Rene Boy Rosario, 31, who yielded sachets of suspected shabu worth about P10,000. Dennis Jay Santos, Inquirer Mindanao

 THE UNIVERSITY OF MANILA  
546 DR MARIANO V. DE LOS SANTOS SR STREET  
SAMPALOC, MANILA  
UM SINCE 1913  
Tel # 7355102 • 7355084 • 7355085 • 7355098 • 7355094  
Fax # 7355089 • 3390150  
Website: www.univman.edu.ph E-Mail: um@univman.edu.ph

### SECOND SEMESTER: OCT. 29, 2007

#### COURSES AND DEGREES OFFERED:

- \* Doctor of Education
- \* Doctor of Public Administration
- \* Master of Public Administration
- \* Master of Business Administration
- \* Master of Laws
- \* M. A. in Education major in Administration & Supervision
- \* M.A. in Education major in Guidance & Counselling
- \* M. A. in History
- \* M.A. in Political Science
- \* Bachelor of Laws
- \* B. S. in Accountancy
- \* B. S. in Industrial Engineering
- \* B. S. in Civil Engineering
- \* B. S. in Criminology
- \* B. S. in Foreign Service
- \* B. S. in Computer Science
- \* B. S. in Hotel and Restaurant Management
- \* B. S. in Education major in English
- \* B. S. in Education major in Filipino

#### NEW COURSES

- \* Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Languages (Japanology)
- \* Bachelor in Business Administration major in Financial Accounting

#### SHORT TERM COURSES:

- \* Building Construction Specialist
- \* Associate in Computer Science
- \* Associate in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- \* Certificate in Bookkeeping
- \* Certificate in Police Science & Technology
- \* Certificate in Computer Secretarial
- \* Certificate in Hotel & Restaurant Management
- \* Certificate in Tourism

*Excellence • Prestige • Quality*



ELECTION FIESTA

In the main highway of Digos City, Davao del Sur, campaign materials for today's village and youth elections are posted almost everywhere.

## Seized forest products rotting, says group

LUCENA CITY—AT LEAST 1,646 cubic meters or 697,535 board feet of seized logs and lumber have been rotting government unbounding areas in Quezon province, according to an inventory by an environmentalist group.

The rotting logs are part of the more than 4,800 cu. m. (about 2 million board feet) of illegally cut forest products confiscated by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in northern and central parts of Quezon from 2000 to Aug. 2007.

"The sight of a million pesos worth of forest products just left rotting is abominable. [These are] government resources gone wasted. The government should change the process of forfeiture and disposition of seized items to stop this absurdity," Jay Lim, program officer of Tanggol Kalikasan (TK)-Southern Tagalog, told the INQUIRER.

Lim also disclosed that during more than six years of anti-illegal logging operations, only nine persons had been hauled in jails but were later released

after posting bail.

"This only shows the rampant illegal logging in Quezon and the government's inadequate response to combat the situation even in the apprehension of suspects," he said.

Lim noted that based on DENR data, several known suspects in illegal logging trade in Quezon province had been listed several times as alleged owners of seized items.

TK staff members conducted the inventory of confiscated forest products impounded in DENR-Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Centro) compounds in Real and Pagbilao towns for about a week last month.

The TK based its inventory on their own records and data furnished by the DENR.

"We want to know the whole process and procedure to help in the improvement of the system if there's a need for it. And indeed, the process really needs some changes. We're just finishing our evaluation and we will submit our recommendations," said

lawyer Sheila de Leon, TK-Southern Tagalog executive director.

De Leon said they focused their inventory in Real and Pagbilao Centro because the two local DENR offices have jurisdiction over wide-forested areas.

The Centro in Real covers Sierra Madre in north Quezon while Pagbilao covers the Atimonan National Park, Mt. Banahaw-San Cristobal and some parts of Sierra Madre.

Centro-Pagbilao also covers the coastal town of Mauban, a known transhipment point of illegally cut lumber from Sierra Madre mountain ranges in northern Luzon.

Lim said even the seized vehicles used in the transport of illegally cut forest products and cutting equipment were left deteriorating in DENR impounding areas.

He observed that the stocks of confiscated fletches, logs and lumber in grassy areas inside the compound had become snake pits.

The TK inventory noted that the DENR in Real and Pagbilao had donated to local government

units, schools, villages and non-government organizations a total of 1,897 cubic meters (803,903 board feet) of confiscated logs and lumber, mostly dipterocarp species like narra and lauan.

"But there were some loopholes in the donation process," Lim said. He did not elaborate.

Antonio Diwa, Centro-Real chief, admitted the decay of confiscated forest products.

"But we're helpless on how to address the situation due to lack of much better unbounding areas. Besides, we cannot touch the seized items until the court resolves the case," he said over the phone.

He also complained of lack of funds to speed up the hauling of confiscated forest products and cutting equipment.

De Leon said there was a need for "special courts" to speed up the resolution of cases involving environmental crimes.

She observed that a number of judges and prosecutors were still not well versed in environmental laws. Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

they never intended to discuss our terms," Revelar said on Thursday.

Mintrea and the Corporate Officers, Managers, and Executives of Transco (Comet) has issued an Oct. 26 manifesto detailing contract terms they wanted the government to study before it perfects a concessionaire contract for the firm that buys Transco.

"These terms are reasonable because they are not selling assets. Government is selling its skilled workers to the private sector," Revelar said. Vincent Cabresa, Inquirer Northern Luzon

## Transco employees angered by private auction of state firm

BAGUIO CITY—EMPLOYEES' unions of the state-owned National Transmission Corp. (Transco) accused the government of bad faith in concealing the lease terms of the national power grid that has been scheduled for auction on Nov. 5.

Walder Revelar, president for the Mt. Province area of the Mindanao Transco Employees Association (MunaEA), said they were protesting the government's "absence of transparency," after talks with the Public Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (Psalm) about granting unions a role in the auction collapsed on Thursday.

"They decided to hold a private auction and we are not to be involved in the transactions. We have reached out to the [power sector officials in government] because employees who may lose their jobs in this deal need some measure of control over their fate. This is much worse than our situation in Napocor (National Power Corp.)," Revelar said.

The firm's Mindanao-based union is led by retrenched or transferred employees of Napocor.

Revelar had negotiated for better terms on behalf of the North Luzon rank and file employees of

Napocor when it began retrenching workers before its dissolution.

The Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 (Epira) requires full power industry deregulation by selling off all government-owned power plants, and by leasing out the operations of the country's power grid system.

Transco, a firm spun out of the deregulated Napocor, runs the national grid.

"But unlike my experience with Napocor, employees were no longer consulted regarding the Transco sale. Psalm agreed to meet with us but it turned out

minded climbers against throwing their refuse everywhere

Pame said all registered climbers have also undergone orientation and training on rules to ensure that their journey would not affect the environment.

Sacdalán said to ensure the safety of climbers, policemen and soldiers have also been deployed in strategic spots—including the trails leading to Lake Agco and Venado. Edwin O. Hernandez, Inquirer Mindanao

## Annual climb to Mt. Apo formally opens

KIDAPAWAN CITY—THE CITY government on Thursday declared the formal opening of the annual climb to the country's highest peak.

Marife Pame, chief of the city's tourism investments promotions office, said dozens of climbers—including foreigners—have already registered for the "Octo trek" to Mt. Apo and were expected to scale the mountain during the summer.

The activity also aims to project the environment and

tourism potentials of the areas surrounding Mt. Apo, home to the Philippine Eagle.

Pame said even with the volume of climbers who already registered, others could still join the trek by registering until Oct. 31.

"Let's explore Mt. Apo before we explore other tourist destinations in the country," Pame said.

The annual trek also aims to stir awareness among climbers about the importance of protecting Mt. Apo's environment.

North Cotabato Gov. Jesus

Sacdalán said they have re-

acted the environment and

the importance of protecting Mt. Apo's environment.

North Cotabato Gov. Jesus

Sacdalán said they have re-

More Sports stories  
on A27 to 30

# Late SPORTS

## Beverage Masters bounce back; Realtors score

GAMES WEDNESDAY (Cuneta Astrodome)  
4:50 p.m.—Red Bull vs Al21  
7:20 p.m.—Araxis vs Barangay Gilabala

By Musong R. Castillo

**LORDY TUGADE SCORED 13 POINTS** in the final 4:56 last night to key Magnolia's 89-78 victory over Coca-

Cola last night in the Smart-PBA Philippine Cup eliminations at the Araneta Coliseum.

Tugade's scoring burst helped the Beverage Masters shatter a 70-all tie and bounce back from a defeat to Purefoods to hike their record to 3-1.

Coca-Cola, after opening up with an 85-76 decision of Welcoat last Oct. 19,

went down for the second straight night.

"As you could see, we're struggling," said coach Siot Tanquigcen. "We're still looking for ways to give everyone minutes."

Sra. Lucia held it together for a full game and finally won one, pipping Talk N' Text, 97-87, in the second game.

The Realtors improved to 1-2 while

Talk N' Text dropped to 2-2.

First Game

MAGNOLIA 89—Tugade 21, Seigle 12, E. Villanueva 11, Ridolfo 11, J. Villanueva 7, Racela 6, Montverde 6, Fonacier 5, Tenorio 3, Gonzales 3, Eman 2, Wilson 2.

COCA-COLA 74—Peak 16, Telen 13, Buenafe 11, Arigo 11, Tolonia 9, Calirang 7, Enrile 6, Rizada 4, Durandes 1, Isip 0.

Quarters: 22-14, 38-44, 65-62, 89-78

STA. LUCIA 97—Aquino 18, Mendoza 18, Williams 11, Omolot 10, Yeo 9, Da 7, Reyes 6, Miranda 6, Espino 4, Mamecay 3, Coronel 3, Gonzales 2.

TALK N' TEXT 87—Alapag 24, Washington 19, Cardona 14, De Ocampo 12, Ritovalo 5, Billones 4, Ajimal 3, Taulava 3, Belano 2, Alido 1, Carey 0.

Quarters: 33-16, 52-35, 70-56, 87-87



Alagang tunay ay alagang BenLife.

Nothing compares to the love a lolo has for his apo; this sort of care knows no end. This is the kind of relationship that brings immense joy through the years.

Be worry-free with BenLife's Money Value Plus pension plan. Reap bigger premiums, and even avail of loans on your policy.

BenLife is a wholly Filipino-owned insurance company with more than 47 years of experience and stability. We have over P3 billion in total assets for the coverage of our more than 300,000 satisfied policyholders. We have 324 domestic and international branches to serve our policyholders wherever they are, providing them with the insurance products they deserve for a worry-free future.

Let BenLife truly care for you and your family. Call us today for your family's insurance needs.

Our full range of products and services:

- Whole Life
- Academic Life Program (Educational Plan)
- Product Mix Plans: (Life and Health)
  - Multi-Life Protector Plus
  - Mega MLP
- Special Corporate Plan:
  - Money Accumulator Pension Plus
  - Money Value Plus
- Employees Comprehensive Coverage Plan
- Dollar Advantage Plan
- Term Plans:
  - Group Yearly Renewable Term
  - Group Credit Life
  - Group Mortgage Redemption Insurance
  - 10-Yr. Convertible Term

Alagang Tunay,  
Alagang Benlife.

**BenLife**  
INSURANCE

**BENEFICIAL-PNB LIFE**  
Insurance Co., Inc.

165 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village,  
Makati City  
Tel No. 818-8671

**Canon**  
Delighting You Always

Canon Image Nation  
**DELIGHTFUL DESTINATIONS**  
BOHOL • DAVAO • BORACAY • BANGKOK • PHUKET  
HONG KONG • KUALA LUMPUR • SINGAPORE

In celebration of its 10th year Anniversary, Canon is giving 10 lucky winners a holiday trip AND a digital camera to take along each month from October to December! For the Grand Raffle, we'll be giving away 10 Asian destination trips together with a digital camcorder. A total of 40 lucky Canon winners!

Just buy any participating Canon product from October to January.

Promo is open to both consumers and corporate accounts.

For consumers, text CANON <authentication>/<product name>/<model number> 2966. (EX. CANON CM12345/EOS/5D).

For corporate accounts, ask your account executive today.

There will be 3 Monthly Raffle draws and the Grand Raffle draw will be held on February 15, 2008.

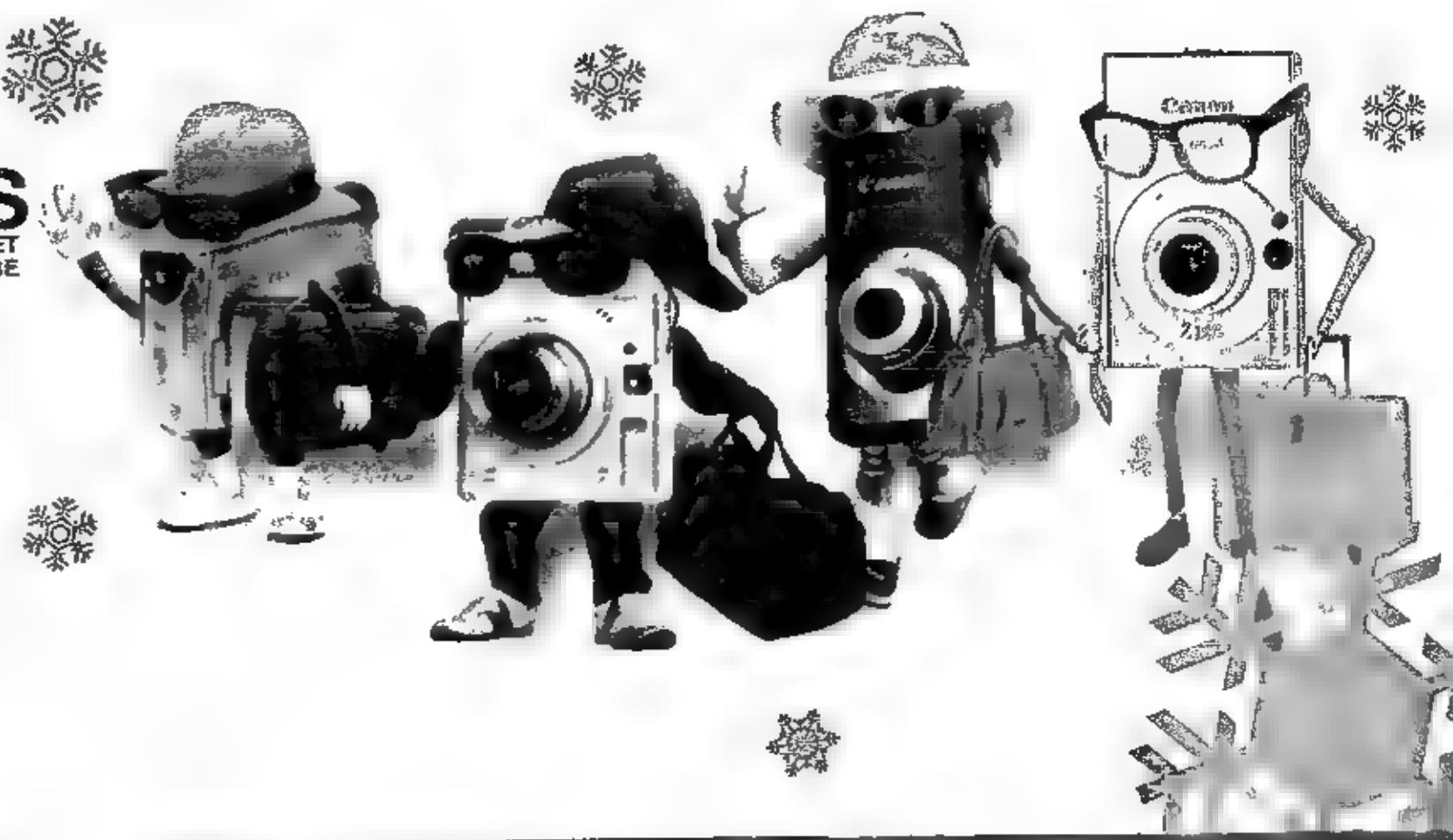
Watch out for the first 10 winners for October who will each win an XUS 75 digital camera and a trip to Bohol!

Promo stickers from previous Canon promos, such as PIXMA Print & Win, do not have valid promo codes.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4782 Series of 2007.

Promo Period: October 3, 2007 - January 31, 2008.

See Ilays or visit [www.canon.com.ph](http://www.canon.com.ph) for more details.





Website: www.inquirer.net/metro

**mobile news**

inquirer.net/mobile/news

Subscribe to INQUIRER news stories on your mobile phone through SMS or MMS!

INQUIRER News: Text ON &lt;space&gt; INQUIRER &lt;space&gt; BREAKING and send to 2207 for Globe

Text INQUIRER &lt;space&gt; ON &lt;space&gt; BREAKING and send to 2207 for Smart

INQUIRER News: Text ON &lt;space&gt; INQUIRER &lt;space&gt; BREAKING and send to 2207 for Globe

Text INQUIRER &lt;space&gt; ON &lt;space&gt; BREAKING and send to 2207 for Smart

Daily Phils per 1000 subscribers, P1.00 for Smart. Minutes of usage 60 (20 min per day).

# Metro police to check voting centers

## QC cops tighten watch on 'areas of concern'

By Allison W. Lopez, Kristine L. Alave and Kenneth M. del Rosario

METRO MANILA POLICE CHIEF GEARY BARIAS yesterday ordered his top officials to inspect some of the schools in their areas which would be used as voting centers for today's barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections.

The memorandum from the National Capital Region Police Office director was addressed to the heads of the five police districts in the metropolis.

In particular, Barias listed two schools in each police district which he ordered his men to inspect at 6 a.m. today.

Officials of the Manila Police District were tasked to inspect the P Gomez Elementary School on P Guevarra Street in Sta. Cruz and the Ramon Magsaysay High School on España, Sampaloc.

On the other hand, Southern Police District officials were ordered to check Fort Bonifacio Elementary School on J.P Rizal Avenue, the Jose Rizal Elementary School on Vito Cruz, Makati and the Signal Village High School in Signal Village, Taguig.

For the Quezon City Police District, their assignment was to inspect the Bagong Pag-Asa Elementary School on R-10, Barangay Bagong Pag-Asa and the Batasan Hill National High School on Batasan Road.

Northern Police District heads, meanwhile, were assigned to check the Caloocan City High School on 10th Avenue West, Caloocan City and the Gen. T. de Leon Elementary and High School in Valenzuela.

EPD force has enough security for any emergency.

"EPD is well prepared. There are no hotspots in my area of responsibility. However, all precincts will have security in case of any contingency," he said.

In Rizal province, police director Senior Supt. Freddie Panen said that his men have been on red alert with checkpoints set up on major roads.

According to Panen, some villages in the towns of Rodriguez and Tanay, as well as communities in the mountainous area of Antipolo City, have been classified as areas of immediate concern.

He added that he conducted a site visit on Saturday night to check his men's security preparations.

Taking a more proactive approach, the Quezon City police said they would be increasing their visibility in 11 barangays considered as "areas of concern" in today's polls.

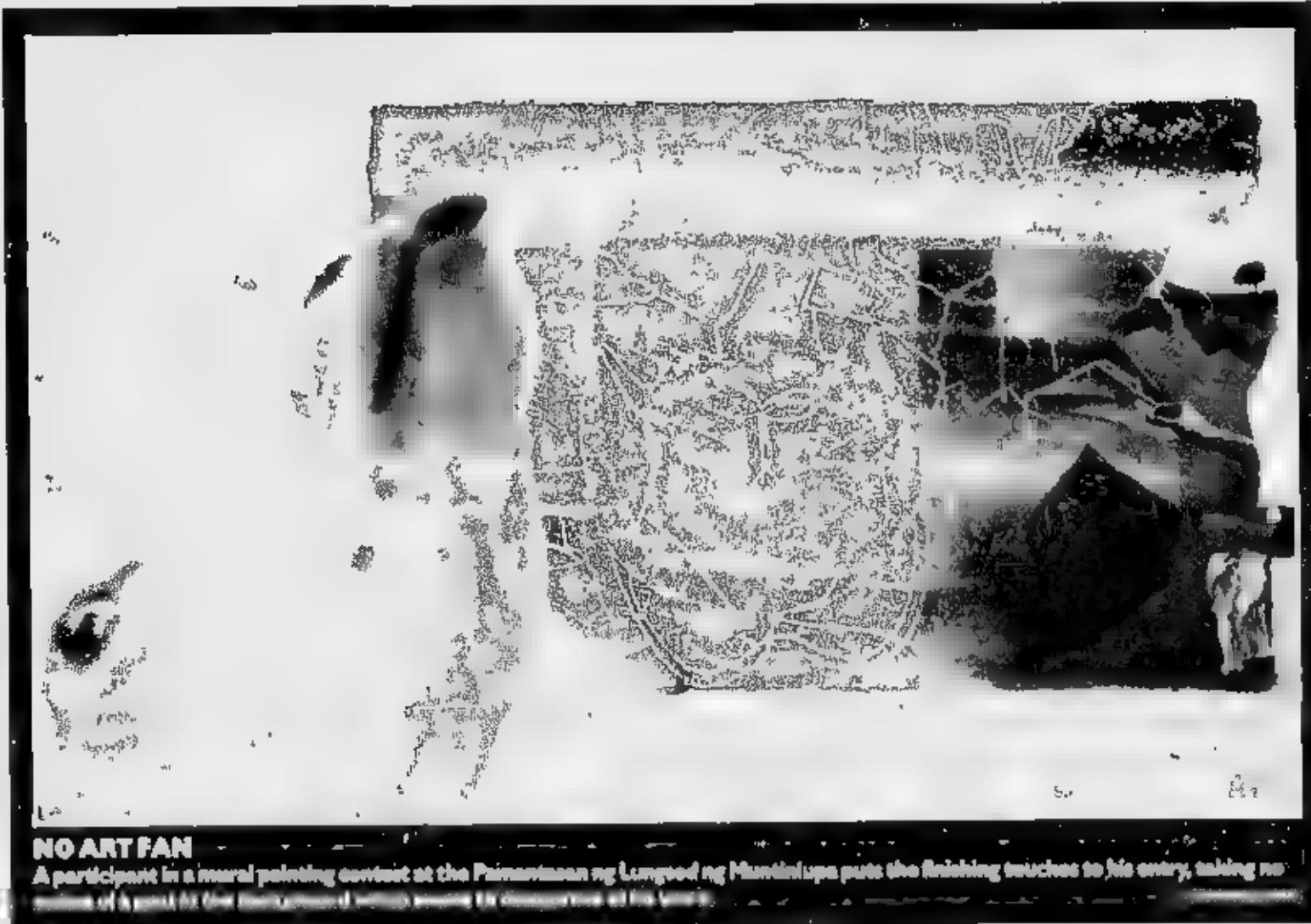
### QC 'hotspots'

Considered "hotspots" are Barangays Siena, Bahay Toro, Talipapa, Pasong Tamo, Nagkaisang Nalon, North Fairview, Holy Spirit, Payatas, Batasan Hills, Commonwealth and Tatalon.

"We got all the precincts in the city's 142 barangays covered," said Supt. Bernabe Balba, intelligence chief of the Quezon City Police District. He reiterated, however, that they would be paying more attention to the areas of concern to prevent election-related violent incidents.

QCPD chief, Senior Supt. Magtanggol Gadtula, told the Inquirer that they would be fielding 730 policemen in polling places, with an additional 70 from Camp Crame.

"Our patrol cars would be ready to respond to any incident as they would be stationed in strategic locations," Gadtula said.



## Time to move in to your new office.

Open the door to better productivity and great prizes!

**Buy a 2007 Microsoft Office system product key and get this!**

**BUY THIS**

- One (1) 2007 Office license
- Five (5) 2007 Office licenses
- Ten (10) 2007 Office licenses
- Twenty (20) 2007 Office licenses
- Fifty (50) 2007 Office licenses

**GET THIS FOR FREE**

- 2007 Microsoft Office T-shirt
- 4 GB Kingston USB thumb drive
- 80 GB external hard drive for laptop
- 10 megapixel Polaroid digital camera
- HTC Touch Windows Mobile phone

**Get your key today!**

1. Get a prize key when you buy a participating PC brand with a free 60-day trial of 2007 Microsoft Office system.
2. Fill in the prize key with your name, address and contact details.
3. Surrender the prize key for your instant prize when you buy a 2007 Microsoft Office system full product version.

\*This promo applies to participating PC brands only.  
\*\*This promo does not apply to 2007 Microsoft Office Home & Student Edition

For more information, check out [www.nowpossible.ph](http://www.nowpossible.ph)

Promo Period: Sept. 27 - Oct. 31, 2007

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4133 Series of 2007

## Protesting teachers to wear black shirts

By Kenneth M. del Rosario

NAVOTAS PUBLIC SCHOOL teachers who are serving in today's synchronized barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections will be wearing black T-shirts as a sign of protest following the filing of criminal charges against 13 of their colleagues by a defeated candidate

in the May 14 elections.

On Oct. 23, former Malabon-Navotas Rep. Federico "Rucky" Sandoval filed charges of dereliction of duty against the teachers at the city prosecutor's office. In particular, he accused them of conspiring to keep his poll watchers out of voting precincts.

Sandoval ran for Navotas mayor but lost to Toby Tiangco, the incumbent.

Esperanza Tecson, president of the Association of Public Elementary School Teachers (PEST), said the charges filed against the teachers were "unfair" as they were just doing their job.

Among those charged were Yulanda Felizardo of the Navotas Elementary School, Susan Mabalot and De la Cruz of the Kapitbahayan School, Amada Laurel, Bernadette Aguilar, Cecilia de Castro and Marites Alejandro of the Bangkulasi Elementary School.

Also charged were Mercedita Lauriano, Cleofe Enriquez and Marites Tesare of the San Roque Elementary School and Teodora Ariesgado and Marivic Capuli of the Dagatdagatan Elementary School.

### DID YOU KNOW?

CARTOONIST Antonio Velasquez was born on Oct. 29, 1910 in Paco, Manila. Considered as the Father of Philippine Comics, Velasquez created Kengkoy, which first came out on Jan. 11, 1929 in Liwayway magazine. He received the Best Komiks of the Year award from the Graphic Arts Service Inc. in 1963, a Special Award from the Citizens Council for Mass Media in 1971, the Gawad CCP para sa Sining from the Cultural Center of the Philippines in 1993, and the Life Achievement Award from Komiks Operation Brotherhood in 1998. (Source: CCP Encyclopedia) Kate Pedroso, Inquirer Research





# The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Guoco

## Turkey threatens incursion into Iraq



IRAQI Kurd children play on old tanks of executed Saddam Hussein's army, Oct. 27 in Toran, 120 km north of the Kurdish city of Arbil. AFP

SIRNAK, TURKEY—TURKISH PRIME MINISTER Tayyip Erdogan threatened on Saturday to order an incursion into northern Iraq against Kurdish guerrillas after the failure of talks with Iraq aimed at averting a cross-border raid.

"The moment an operation is needed, we will take that step," Erdogan told a large flag-waving crowd in Izmit. "We don't need to ask anyone's permission."

The talks collapsed late on Friday after Ankara rejected proposals by Iraqi Defense Minister Gen. Abdel Qader Jassim for tackling guerrillas based in northern Iraq as insufficient and because they would not yield results quickly enough.

Turkey has massed up to 100,000 troops, backed by fighter jets, helicopter gunships, tanks, and mortars, on the border for a possible offensive against about 3,000 rebels using Iraq as a base from which to carry out attacks in Turkey.

The United States, which was also represented at the talks, opposes a major incursion, fearing it could destabilize the relatively peaceful north of Iraq and

the wider region.

The Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) launched its separatist campaign in 1984, since when more than 30,000 people have died.

Erdogan took a swipe at western countries for not cracking down on the PKK and said calling it a terrorist group, as the United States and European Union do, was not enough.

"We want action, and if you can't show action, you fail the sincerity test," he said. "Those who overlook terrorism are in cooperation with terrorism," he told a conference earlier.

Army sources said on Saturday that military planes were making reconnaissance flights

along the mountainous border to photograph PKK camps in northern Iraq. Helicopters were patrolling villages and soldiers sweeping roads for mines.

Erdogan played down comments by Turkey's Armed Forces chief Gen. Yasar Buyukant that the Turkish Army, NATO's second largest, was waiting for him to meet US President George W. Bush in Washington on Nov. 5 before a major incursion.

US-Turkish ties have deteriorated sharply in recent weeks.

Senior Turkish diplomats say Erdogan has given Washington and Baghdad a limited time to show concrete results or steps to be taken against the PKK. Reuters

### Warming revives flora, fauna in Greenland

By Sarah Lyall

NARSARSAQ, GREENLAND—A strange thing is happening at the edge of Poul Bjerger's tiny forest here.

Its four oldest trees—the four oldest pine trees in Greenland, named Rosenvinge's trees after the Dutch botanist who planted them in an experiment in 1893—are waking up. After lapsing into stately, sleepy old age, they are exhibiting new sprinklings of green at their tops.

"The old ones, they're having a second youth," said Bjerger, 78, who has watched the forest, called Qanaqissat, come to life, in fits and starts, since planting most of the trees in it 50 years ago. He beamed like a proud grandson. "They're growing again."

Although Greenland is the size of Europe, it has only nine conifer forests like Bjerger's, all of them cultivated. It has only 51 farms. Except for potatoes, the only vegetables most Greenlanders ever eat—to the extent that they eat vegetables at all—are imported, mostly from Denmark.

But now that the climate is warming, it is not just old trees that are growing. A Greenlandic supermarket is stocking locally grown cauliflower, broccoli and cabbage this year for the first time. Eight sheep farmers are growing potatoes commercially. Five more are experimenting with vegetables. And Kenneth Hoeg, the region's chief agriculture adviser, says he does not see why southern Greenland cannot eventually be full of vegetable farms and viable forests

"If it gets warmer, a large part of southern Greenland could be like this," Hoeg said. Two and a half acres near here, imported pines, spruces, larches and firs are plunked in the midst of the scrubby, rocky hillside next to the fjord, as startling as a mirage.

"If it gets a little warmer, you could talk about a productive forest with enough wood for logs," Hoeg said.

Farther north, Greenland's great ice sheet is melting. But here in the subarctic south, the changes are more subtle and carry more promise.

"The limiting factor for human survival here is temperature, and there's a lot of benefits with a warmer climate," Hoeg said.

"We are on the frontier of agriculture, and even a few degrees can make a difference." NYT

### New York governor tries new tack on illegal immigrants' driver licenses

IN A MAJOR SHIFT, GOV. ELIOT SPITZER OF NEW YORK IS BACKING OFF HIS PLAN TO ALLOW ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO OBTAIN THE SAME KIND OF DRIVER LICENSES AS OTHER NEW YORKERS, AFTER WEEKS OF ANGER OVER THE PROPOSAL.

Instead, the governor said Saturday, the state would issue different classes of licenses: One license would also be a federally recognized identification card obtainable only by those who can prove they are legal residents of the United States and a second would not require proof of legal residency. A third would comply with the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, which will

tighten identification requirements.

The federal card, which is part of Real ID, a program to develop a highly secure form of identification that would be phased in nationwide by 2013, would allow a person to board airplanes, or enter the United States, without carrying a passport. The more-limited identification, which illegal immigrants would be eligible for, would not qualify as federal identification and would clearly say so.

The move to create different tiers of driver licenses followed a wave of criticism over the governor's proposal at a

time when the issue of illegal immigration is stirring the national political debate, and many Democrats warned that Spitzer had put the party in political peril.

The new plan will probably do little if anything to quell the controversy over the issue, as people on both sides of the debate in New York expressed concern over it.

Under the plan, worked out in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, New York is likely to become one of the first states to offer the new federal license; it intends to start as soon as the middle of next year. NYT

## GE Money Bank

A SCANDOS Bank

### Free GE Profile™ Ref or Microwave when you avail of a Home Loan

Apply for a GE Money Bank Home Loan from October 1 to December 31, 2007 and get a free GE Profile™ Refrigerator for every approved and availed loan of P1.5 million and above or a GE Microwave Oven for every approved and availed loan of P1.0 million to less than P1.5 million.

Call us at (02) 721 8000 or visit participating branches



GE imagination at work

See flyers for details.  
Promo Extension Period: October 1 to December 31, 2007  
Approved by PFI-DI-MC Permit No. 2203 Series of 2007  
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation  
Minimum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor P250,000.

**Agad-agad**  
Puwedeng  
huligan ng up to  
6 months pa!  
**Simplex Kausapt**  
**CALL 88-725-88**

Globe Office: (02) 8234-0828 Tel. Fax: 1-800-1889-2940(6428)

# SPORTS

Website: [www.inquirer.net/sports](http://www.inquirer.net/sports)

Editor: **Teddy S. Melendres**

Assistant Editor: **Francis T.J. Ochoa**

Text us your feedback: **inquirer.sprt.name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart). E-mail: pr\_sports@inquirer.com.ph**

**telecare**  
GLOBAL SOLUTIONS  
Now Hiring Call Center Professionals  
Hotline: **580-6530**  
Text ETEL(epace)PD(epace)Name,  
Landline Number & Desired Position  
Send to: 2327 (Globe Subscribers)  
09178902327 (Non-Globe Subscribers)

# Victory double by Frankie, Juvic

Miñoza ends Japan drought; Pagunsan breaks through in Asian Tour

By Inquirer Sports

**FRANKIE MIÑOZA ENDED A SIX-year victory drought in the rich Japan Tour and Juvic Pagunsan capped a great weekend for Philippine golf by coming up with a spectacular Asian Tour breakthrough win in Indonesia yesterday.**

The 47-year-old Miñoza won ₱24,000,000 (about \$210,308) by nipping Korean Lee Dong-hwa with a birdie on the first hole of a sudden death playoff for the ABC Championship in Hyogo prefecture after both players finished tied at 14-under 274.

It was the first championship in Japan for Miñoza, who won this year's Philippine Open for the second time last February, since ruling the Pujisankei Classic in 2001.

Pagunsan, 29, and last year's Asian Tour Rookie of the Year, finished birdie-eagle to complete a seven-under-par 65 and a one-stroke victory in the Pertamina Indonesia President Invitational in Jakarta.

The sparely built star from Bacolod broke into tears after nipping India's Gaganjeet Bhullar with a 19-under-par 269 total and walking away with the winner's check of \$55,475 (about P2.45 million).

With his first pro win, Pagunsan leaped to 33rd position from 80th on the Asian Tour's UBS Order of Merit with total earnings of \$92,027.



JUVIC Pagunsan: Last-hole eagle does it.



FRANKIE Miñoza: Birdie on sudden death hole.

the day, then moved into contention with four birdies on the front nine.

"I am speechless, it was the perfect finish for me. I've enjoyed my time on the Asian Tour and this is what I've been waiting for in my career," said Pagunsan. "I would like to dedicate this win to my wife (Maria Eleana) and my daughter (LJ) as they've supported me all the way. I would like to thank my sponsors and everyone who has been there for me," added the Filipino young gun.

Pagunsan first tied for the lead with a birdie on the 13th hole, fell back with a bogey on the 15th but stayed in touch with Bhullar with a par on the 16th.

Bhullar, playing in front of Pagunsan's flight that included veteran Ryder Cupper Lee Westwood of England, actually buried the 17th and 18th but the Filipino also birdied 17 before reaching the par-5 18th green in two.

After Westwood holed a 25 foot putt for eagle to finish with a 70 and a tie for third spot alongside American Anthony Kang, Pagunsan studied his eagle putt briefly then wasted no time sinking it, pumping his fist ala-Tiger Woods when the ball disappeared.

"I wasn't hitting it too well coming into this tournament but Tony Lascuna and Jerome Delariante gave me a good tip on my swing which helped. They said I was moving too much on my swing so I remained focused, adjusted well for a top finish."

Delariante earlier finished tied for 29th at 281 after a 71 while Gerald Rosales wound up at 286 after a 72. Lascuna missed the 36-hole cut.

With a report from Asian Tour News



## Payla a win from Olympics

By Dennis U. Eroa, Inquirer Libre

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS—FLYWEIGHT VIOLETO Payla moved closer to an Olympic berth as he whipped Khalid Said of England, 29-15, Saturday to enter the round of 16 in the International Amateur Boxing Association World Boxing Championships at the University of Illinois-Chicago Pavilion here.

Standing in the way of Payla's dream run to the 2008 Beijing Olympics is flamboyant American Rau'shee Warren, bronze medalist in the 2005 World Championships and, like the Filipino, a veteran of the 2004 Athens Olympics.

**PING GOLF CLUB FITTING**

For inquiries, please call 842-2099 (Mon-Fri) or visit a **PING AUTHORIZED FITTING CENTER**.

**Southpoint Driving Range**  
Filinvest Corp. City,  
Alabang, Muntinlupa City

**CityGolf Driving Range**  
Doña Julia Vargas Ave.,  
Pasig City

**Makati Golf Club**  
Malugay St., Brgy. Bel Air, Makati City

**LOGCOM Driving Range**  
Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

**THE 24/7 CARENS**



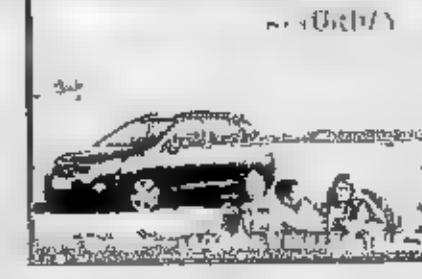
**KIA CARENS**  
with CRDi DIESEL ENGINE\*

**FOR EVERY TASK. FOR EVERY JOB. EVERY DAY.**

**VALUABLE FEATURES OF THE KIA CARENS**

**KIA AUTHORIZED DEALERS / SALES OUTLETS**

METRO MANILA GREENHILLS Tel. 744-4258-PASIG Tel. 645-3856 QC 23-BALIBAG Tel. 411-1233-PASAY Tel. 652-1582 to 58-QUIRINO AVENUE Tel. 551-7172-BINATE Tel. 534-4806-NICOLICHES Tel. 453-8182-MARIKINA Tel. 852-8560 to 61-ANTIPOLDO Telex 655-1457-BUNAO Tel. 256-2037-38-LBS Tel. 708-0885-CUBAO Tel. 421-1719-MANDALUYONG Tel. 531-1631 to 36-NEW MANILA Tel. 722-0822 to 34-MARIBA BAY Tel. 556-1484-85-CUEZON AVE. Tel. 743-5593-MAKATI Tel. 815-1178-DATYAY Telex 668-1723-SUCAT Tel. 823-1542-LUZON BATANGAS Tel. 041-778-4214 to 16-STA. ROSA Tel. 049-544-0287-DASMARIÑAS Tel. 045-515-1242-BULACAN Tel. 041-882-0273-PAMPANGA Tel. 045-581-1465 to 85-PANGASINAN Tel. 075-517-3888-PALAWAN Tel. 084-433-4863-CABANATUAN Tel. 084-400-5222-LEBASPI Tel. 052-651-1531-VISAYAS ILILO Tel. 033-338-1579-BACOLOD Tel. 031-344-8079-CEBU CITY Tel. 032-233-1206-BANDAIGA CITY Tel. 032-233-3815-BOHOL Tel. 036-501-0119-DUMAGUETE Tel. 032-561-6441-TACLOBAN Tel. 053-523-3413-SAN CARLOS CITY Tel. 034-728-4538-MINDANAO BUTUAN Tel. 083-615-2889-DZAMIZ Tel. 052-233-431-ZAMBALOGA Tel. 052-983-0769-LIGAN Tel. 053-221-0574-CAAGAYAN DE ORO Tel. 086-258-3557-DAVAO Tel. 082-254-0057-18-GENERAL SANTEZ CITY Tel. 083-302-2280-DIPOLOG Tel. 081-625-2000



**Get 3% fuel rebates**  
with Petron-BPI Mastercard

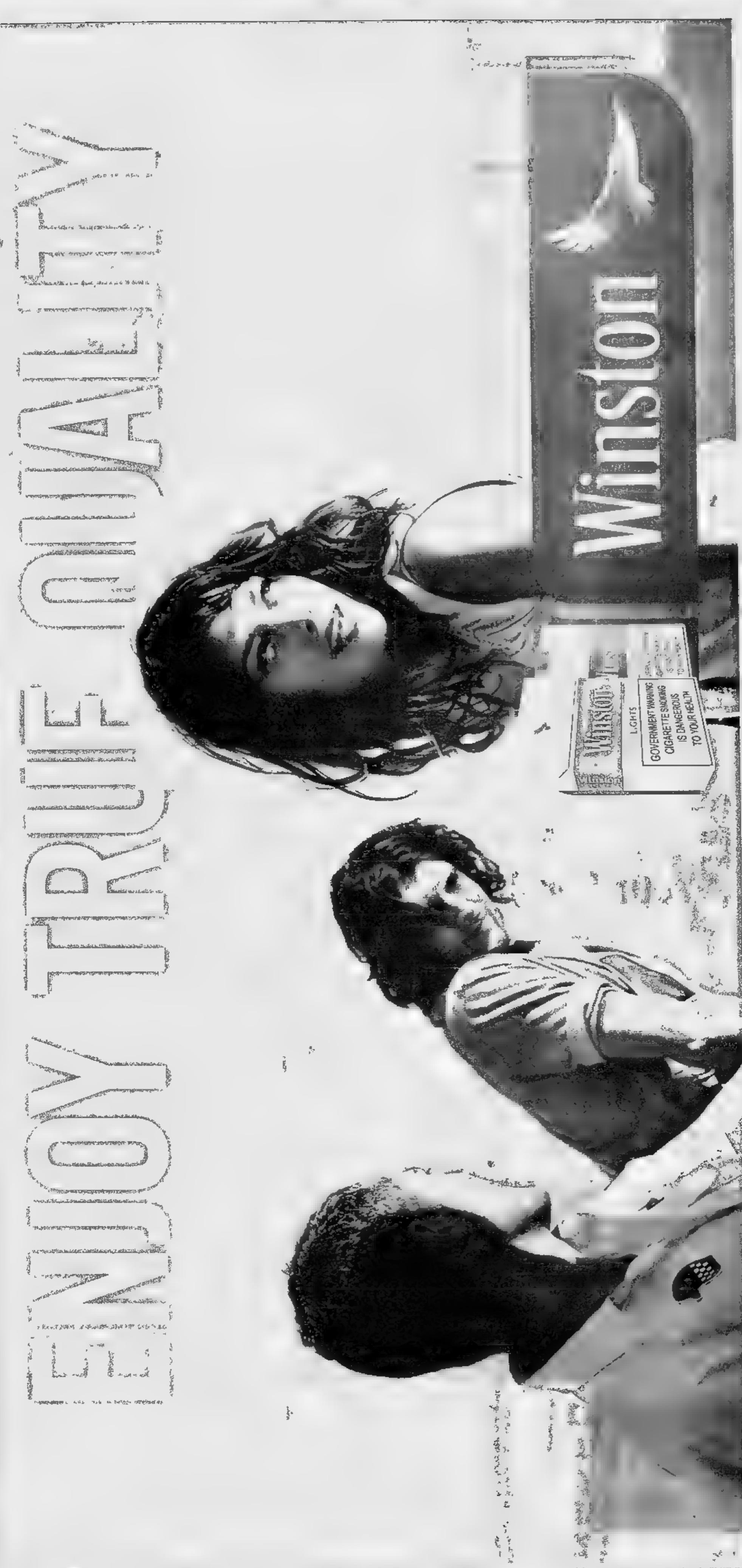
Valid from April 1, 2007 to Dec. 31, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1371 Series of 2007.

Get 3% discount on Automotive Services at participating Petron Stations. 24-hour fuel price shield. 200 Free Fuel upon approval for new cardholders. Free 24-hour towing service and roadside assistance. Apply now! Call 89-100.





**Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.**



# SPORTS

## Red Sox go 3-0 vs Rockies

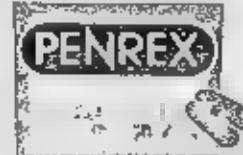
DENVER, COLORADO—EVERYBODY KNEW JAPANESE STAR pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka of the Boston Red Sox could throw with typhoon force. His World Series debut, coming against the Colorado Rockies, also showed he is a samurai with a bat and has ninja-like fielding reflexes too.



### PENREX

HERBAL SUPPLEMENT FOR MEN

- ✓ GUARANTEED SAFE
- ✓ No Side Effects
- ✓ No Prescription Needed
- ✓ BFAD Approved
- ✓ CPR # FR-57565



A Man's KEY to a Woman's HEART for a more satisfying and lasting impression

BOOST SEXUAL PERFORMANCE

New South Star Drug, Faraday Uy, Farmaida Pharmacy,  
Carlo Super Drug, South Star Drug & Leading Drugstores  
in health shops nationwide.

ELITE PROLONG

HDYLINE NO.: 0917 6239109 / TEL/FAX: (032) 344-6622

Matsuzaka became the first Japanese starting pitcher in the history of the World Series in Boston's 10-5 triumph Saturday over Colorado, putting the Red Sox on the verge of a sweep in the best-of-seven Major League Baseball final.

The 27 year-old right-hander struck out five in 5 1/3 innings, allowing only three hits with 66 strikes in 101 pitches for the victory and contributed a two-run single—his first US hit—as part of a six-run third inning.

"I thought he pitched really well," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said. "That's the best life he has had on his fastball in some time. He threw some good changeups."

Matsuzaka also won a personal battle against former Seibu Lions teammate Kazuo Matsui of the Rockies, even though Matsui hit Matsuzaka's first pitch—a 91-mph fastball—for a single and took second base on a fielding error.

"I knew if the first pitch was a fastball that Kazuo was probably going to come after it," Matsuzaka said.

After a strikeout, Matsuzaka forced Colorado's Matt Holliday to hit a ground ball back to the mound. Matsuzaka grabbed it and caught Matsui between bases, eventually catching him in a rundown that saw Matsui tagged out.

Matsuzaka would not usually bat since American League clubs like the Red Sox use a designated hitter.

But Series rules in National League parks require pitchers hit, so Matsuzaka came to the plate in the third inning with the bases loaded.

Matsuzaka smacked the ball off Colorado starter Josh Fogg to left field, driving in two runs for a 5-0 Boston lead.

APP



KNOWN more for his pitching, Boston Red Sox's Daisuke Matsuzaka (right) hurts the Rockies with his bat.

REUTERS

## Norwood just waiting for Baculi's move

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE ALL-AMATEUR PHILIPPINE TEAM will turn down any late inclusion in its roster even if it means rejecting Fil-Am sensation Gabe Norwood.

"If he joins us on the last week of November—and this is for any player, not just Nor-

wood—he will have a hard time," said national coach Junel Baculi.

But Norwood claimed the RP team has yet to officially show interest in getting him to join the Nationals although his own team, Hapee Toothpaste, had already expressed willingness to lend him to the squad preparing for the coming Southeast Asian Games.

"Since I got back, no one has contacted me from the RP Team," said the Fil-Am ace Norwood, who played with the national five in the Fiba Asia in Japan last July.

The 6-foot-5 guard, though, has yet to showcase his real talent after averaging only 6.5 points in two games with Hapee.

"I'm working with what I have," said Baculi.

## Is Your Car Ready?



Rough roads. Slow-moving traffic. Searing heat. Just some of the unpleasant surprises when you go on a road trip. Surprises that put an extra strain on your battery.

For the long drive ahead, have your car's battery checked at your nearest Motolite outlet. Motolite will be happy to check your battery free of charge. Our way of helping you have a safe and trouble-free drive.

**MOTOLITE**

[www.motolite.com](http://www.motolite.com)

843-III



RODOLFO Tacadino outsprints Elmer Sabal to the finish line.

### MILO MARATHON

## Tacadino, 44, pips Sabal in Tuguegarao 21K

TUGUEGARAO CITY—WHAT'S a 44-year-old doing in a highly competitive 21-kilometer foot race apart from trying to make it to the finish line with a clocking just right for his age?

For Rodolfo Tacadino, it's to win—and do it with aplomb.

Tacadino beat Sultan Kudar's Elmer Sabal in a dramatic sprint to the payoff line yesterday to rule the Tuguegarao qualifying race of the 31st National Milo Marathon—his 11th Milo leg championship in a chequered running career.

The veteran Armyman timed an impressive one hour, eight minutes and three seconds and towed five other qualifiers, including the top three women, to the national finals slated Nov. 18 in Metro Manila.

Sabal, younger brother of former national champion Cresenciano Sabal and 20 years Tacadino's junior, settled for second place with a time of 1:08:05.

Third—and the last men's qualifier—was 26-year-old

Joel Bengtay, winner of last year's Dagupan City leg, who clocked 1:09:18.

Topping the ladies' 21K race was first-time winner Edlyn Mabag who clocked 1:26:20.

Sandy Abahan crossed the finish line 39 seconds behind Mabag and took second place honors.

Joung Mabag and Abahan to the national finals of this annual foot race held in partnership with Bayview Park Hotel-Manila, Adidas and the Department of Tourism was Lolinor delos Santos who timed 1:28:40.

For their feat, Tacadino and Mabag each pocketed P10,000 and received an elegant trophy from Milo.

The winners in the 5K fun run were Rodel Mark Ebajo (14:04), Rogen Sendol (14:16) and Enesel Casagan (14:26) in the men's division and Reslyn Buyucan (24:17), Sarah Jane Bagual (24:18) and Rezan Joy Orge (24:19) in the women's race.

The Milo Marathon caps its 23-leg elimination series on Sunday in Baguio City.



# BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Text us your feedback: Inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

Excellence in Connection

Enjoy the Best First Class Service  
in the WorldKorean Air  
Reservation Center, Manila: 893-4909

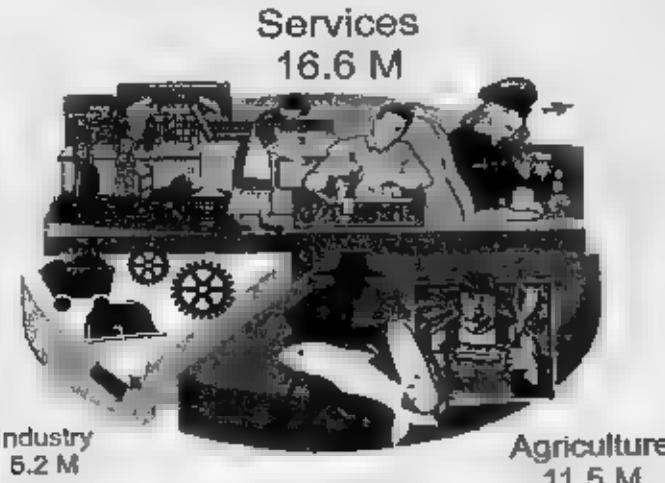
# Politics seen curbing growth momentum

## INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

### Services sector biggest employer (Labor Force Survey)

Nearly one in every two Filipinos employed as of July 2007 was with the Services sector



## HSBC economist says RP fiscal reforms in peril

By Doris C. Dumao

THE POLITICAL SCANDALS ROCKING THE PHILIPPINES COULD curb the government's fiscal reform momentum and dash hopes of any sovereign credit-rating upgrade anytime soon, an economist from British banking giant HSBC has warned.

"Recent political scandals will make it harder for the President to advance a new wave of policy reforms, especially relating to improving the underlying public sector finances," HSBC regional economist Frederick Neumann said in a commentary dated Oct. 22.

Despite a disappointing tax revenue growth, the Hong Kong-based Neumann said the government was now closing in on its full-year deficit target of P63 billion. But

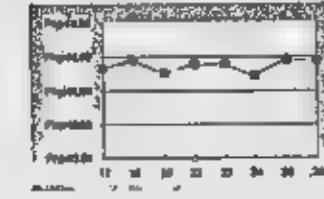
excluding privatization receipts, he pointed out that the government's fiscal performance was "less impressive," suggesting that more reforms were needed.

Ambitious expenditure plans and sluggish tax collection were likely to keep the budget deficit for the foreseeable future, Neumann predicted.

The government has made a commitment to wipe out its budget deficits with

POLITICS/B4

## INDICATORS CURRENCIES

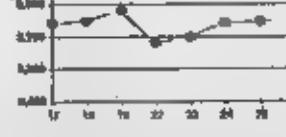


OCTOBER

P 44.06 = \$ 1  
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 26, 2007

## STOCK MARKET

### PSE COMPOSITE INDEX OCTOBER



(See stock market report on Page B2)

## Investors to track Fed move

STOCK MARKET INVESTORS ARE poised to track possible interest rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve despite a two-day trading session this week.

The stock market is closed today for the barangay and youth council elections and on Nov. 1 and 2 for religious holidays.

The US Federal Open Market Committee is set to meet on Oct. 31 to determine the fate of its key Fed funds rate.

Paul Joseph Garcia, chief investment officer at ING Investment Management Inc., said buying last week reflected positioning ahead of a FOMC meeting wherein investors are betting on a 25-basis-point cut in the Fed rate.

Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

# Consumer prices remain stable despite oil spike

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE SPIKE IN WORLD PRICES OF oil should not cause increases in the prices of basic goods, according to the National Price Coordinating Council.

However, Trade Undersecretary Zenaida C. Maglaya said there were other factors such as production area, seasonality, ample supply, demand for the product and weather that could affect prices.

Still, Maglaya said producers and manufacturers "generally" assured the council that prices would remain at current levels.

Based on DTI documents, the price

of chicken should generally be at about P120 a kilo, pork at P140 a kilo and fish at P80 a kilo.

"Prices of processed and manufactured commodities such as sardines, meat and instant noodles remained the same," Maglaya said, citing results of the regular market monitoring.

"We got assurance from officials of the National Federation of Hog Farmers Inc. that there would be no price increase until the Christmas season," she added, referring to the NPCC meeting held last Friday.

Maglaya added that officials of the United Broilers Raisers Association assured consumers of ample supply of

chicken up to the holiday season because of buffer from their special imports.

She said a decrease in prevailing prices of vegetables was also noted compared to mid-October prices, except for the erratic price of tomatoes due to the rainy season.

As for sugar, prices are expected to ease in the next two weeks following an increase in domestic supply.

On the other hand, prices of flour went up 13.4 percent from P680 a bag in September to a range of P735 to P760.

Maglaya said the increase was due to an upsurge in the price of wheat—a major component in mak-

ing flour—due to a decline in production caused by heavy rains and massive droughts in Eastern Europe and North Africa.

"The price of wheat is still high and we can see that our bakers can no longer shoulder the cost," Maglaya said.

"We're looking at increasing the volume of imports through Philippine International Trading Corp.," she said. "We will be working with importers of flour to be able to use the PITC line."

Maglaya added that the DTI would continue to strictly monitor prices of prime commodities and apprehend profiteers that would take advantage of hapless buyers.

## Subsidies to state firms hit P15.5B

By Michelle V. Remo

THE NATIONAL government spent P15.53 billion in the first nine months of the year in subsidies to financially dependent state-owned firms, a 68-percent jump from only P9.25 billion in the same period a year ago.

Of the total subsidies, P4.341 billion went to government financial institutions (GFIs), while P11.19 billion was granted to government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), documents from the Department of Finance showed.

In September alone, subsidies reached P1.02 billion, 4 percent up from P977 million in the same month last year.

Subsidies are provided by the national government to state-owned firms that need extra liquidity to ensure their continued operations.

The rise in subsi-  
dies

Aspire. Aim. Achieve! www.audi.ph



Germany's No.1 Executive Car. That drive one, you deserve it.

Own your dream Audi A6 with our special ownership packages:

- Net monthly amortization for as low as P45,000.00 OR  
Down payment schemes for as low as P649,000.00.

Every Audi purchase comes with a luggage set from the Exclusive Audi Lifestyle Selection.  
Audi Financial Services in partnership with

All applications are subject to bank approval.

Audi Center Philippines, PGA Cars Audi Building, 201 EDSA Mandaluyong City. Call 7270145

Per DTI NCR permit IA3-0861 series of 2007. Promo valid from October 16 to November 30, 2007.



Beijing 2008 Official Premium Automobile



Anita Herrera  
Self-Planner  
Housewife



## What matters most?

My bank offers all kinds of solutions, whether at home or at work.  
My bank answers all my needs, whether here or abroad.  
My bank provides all kinds of services that are personalized,  
hassle-free and complete.

My bank is Maybank.



# Splash sees 41% jump in '07 profit to P282M

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

**PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS GIANT** Splash Corp. said its nine-month net sales reached P1.9 billion, bringing it closer to its full-year target of P2.9 billion, chief finance officer Noel Manucom said.

Full-year net sales are expected to grow 16 percent, with 13 new product launches seen to contribute 14-16 percent of that growth.

Historically, Manucom said the fourth quarter was a strong period for Splash, contributing P1 billion worth of net sales.

He added that the net income could go as high as P282 million

this year, up 41 percent from the previous year's level.

Splash chair Rolando Hortaleza said the company was spending between P800 million and P1.2 billion for two to three possible brand acquisitions to further grow the company.

Splash plans to raise between P1.94 billion and P2.5 billion from a public offering that will start on Nov. 6. The offer period ends on Nov. 12 while the listing date is tentatively set for Nov. 15.

The offering will consist of 223.85 million shares at between P8.70 and P11.18 each.

Of the total public offer, 188.85 million will consist of new shares

and 35 million shares will comprise existing stocks to be offered by Splash Holdings Inc., a 100-percent owned investment company of Splash Group founders Rolando Hortaleza and his wife Rosalinda Ang-Hortaleza.

SB Capital Investment Corp. and First Metro Investment Corp. have been tapped as the lead underwriters for the planned listing.

Established in 1985, Splash has grown from a P12,000 backyard business into a P4-billion enterprise that has established market presence in more than 20 countries in Asia, the Middle East and North America.

## PSEi forecast to hit 4,200 by June 2008

**ONLINE BROKER** CitiSecOnline.com has raised its target for the main stock barometer, the Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi), to 4,200 by June 2008 from 3,840

as higher liquidity flows and low interest rates increase investor appetites, CitiSecOnline.com said in a recent briefing.

The brokerage said liquidity con-

ditions—or the ability to convert shares into cash—have turned favorable both globally and domestically, pumped up by a 50-basis-point cut by the US Federal Reserve in August and a subsequent local interest rate cut by 25 basis points by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

CitiSecOnline added that said the weak economic outlook in the US and an improving local fiscal position, low inflation and a strong peso were expected to dampen any tightening on borrowing costs.

It said excess liquidity was also expected to flow into Asia as regional gross domestic product (GDP) growth for the next two years was expected to reach 7-8 percent, much faster than developed countries' GDP growth of below 3 percent.

In the Philippines, the government expects GDP growth to reach 6-7.8 percent in 2008 and 7-8 percent in 2009, driven by higher government spending, rising investments and consumer spending.

CitiSecOnline also said that a slowdown in the US economy would have a small impact on the Philippines since exports to the US now accounted for 17 percent of total exports, down from a high of 40 percent in 1992.

A US slowdown would, however, impact more on remittances from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs)

since remittances from the US account for around half of total remittances in the country. (Still), the overall impact on consumer spending won't be substantial. This is given that OFW remittances from the US account for only around 7.9 percent of total consumer spending," CitiSecOnline said.

The broker also said that improving employment outlook locally, driven by the strong demand from the business process outsourcing sector, rising investments and the increasing availability of cheap and affordable credit should continue to fuel local consumer spending.

However, CitiSecOnline cited risks to its index target such as rising commodity prices for food and oil, monetary policy tightening and another negative "credit surprise" similar to the US subprime market problem.

Rising inflation could prompt monetary authorities to raise interest rates, which will negatively impact on market liquidity.

"Nevertheless, Asian economies are less vulnerable to rising commodity prices given their strong currencies relative to the US dollar," the broker said.

Monetary tightening is also highly unlikely due to low inflation and a strong peso and a slowing US economy. Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 28, 2007)

52-WKS HIGH	52-WKS LOW	STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
<b>BANKS</b>							
17.5	9.4	Asian Us Development Bank Inc.	8	8.3	8.6	8.6	9,360
73	43	Bancom de Oro-EPCI Inc.	62	63	62	62	381,400
73.5	53	Bank of the Philippine Islands	86	85.5	85	85	1,142,800
74.8	52	China Banking Corp.	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5	630
23.5	18.5	Citystate Savings Bank	23.25	23.25	23.25	23.25	300
0.63	0.36	Export and Industry Bank Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	10,000
75.5	44	Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	61	61.5	61	61.5	2,682,800
68.5	34.5	Philippine National Bank	49	48.5	49	49	979,500
39.57	15.65	Philippine Savings Bank	82.5	82.5	82.5	82.5	500
90	55	Rural Commercial Banking Corp.	28	28.5	27.5	28	2,647,800
66	44.51	Security Bank Corp.	75.5	75.5	75.5	75.5	502,400
<i>Jr. Bank of the Philippines</i>							
50	50	Jr. Bank of the Philippines	50	50	50	50	63,500
<b>OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS</b>							
5.6	4.2	A. H. Kaingking Financial Corp.	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	1,400
2.22	0.6	Bankard Inc.	2	1.98	1.98	1.98	1,783,000
16.25	4.35	Citeseconline.com Inc.	13.75	14	13.25	13.5	2,100,000
1.6	0.5	First Abscam Financial Holdings Corp.	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.97	580,000
42.5	29	First Metro Investment Corp.	42	42	42	42	5,000
5.9	4.9	F. Remill Inc.	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.3	1,137,000
5	2.95	National Insurance Corp. of the Phils.	3.45	3.55	3.45	3.55	683,000
3.1	1.1	PC Leasing and Finance Inc.	1.94	2	1.94	2	16,000
1,130.00	11	The Philippines Stock Exchange Inc.	1,035.00	1,110.00	1,035.00	1,109.00	21,000
2,355.00	1,945.00	Starlife Financial Inc.	2,320.00	2,335.00	2,320.00	2,335.00	1,000
1.02	1.02	Trinoma Corp.	58	58	58	58	1,76,000
<b>ELECTRICITY ENERGY POWER &amp; WATER</b>							
6.4	3.8	Abenro Power Corp.	5.2	5.2	5	5.1	4,500,000
70.5	49	First Gen Corp.	61.5	62	61.5	62	529,000
92	51	First Phl Holdings Corp.	85.5	85.5	85.5	85.5	243,700
17.5	8.8	Manila Water Company Inc.	17	17	16.5	16.5	847,300
105.45	23.18	Mindanao Electric Company	82	83	82	82.5	1,000,300
7.8	4.1	PNOC Energy Development Corp.	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.6	27,000,000
6.8	3.9	Petrotr公	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	3,982,000
14.75	6.6	Phoenix Petroleum Philippines Inc.	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	35,000
1.9	0.98	Trans-Asia Oil and Energy Devl Corp.	1.48	1.58	1.48	1.54	1,600,000
<b>FOOD BEVERAGE &amp; TOBACCO</b>							
6.3	5.4	Almazro Corp.	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.2	4,000
2.95	1.66	First Gen Corp.	1.84	1.84	1.84	1.84	248,000
2.4	1.08	CAOP Group Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	3,000
28.5	19.5	Globe San Miguel Inc.	25	26	26	26	500
51	39	Jollibee Foods Corp.	52	52	52	52	902,100
9.1	5.4	Landers Corp.	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	11,000
0.98	0.5	RFM Corp.	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.7	1,750,000
3.8	2.06	Roxas Holdings Corp.	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	100,000
50	58	San Miguel Corp. A	58.5	58.5	58	58	48,500
68	59.5	San Miguel Corp. B	81.5	81.5	81	81	77,700
0.66	0.31	Swiss Foods Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.44	0.44	420,000
8.5	2	Tanduay Holdings Inc.	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.9	15,000
22	13.75	Universal Robina Corp.	14	14.5	14	14.25	10,601,000
0.75	0.75	Universal Robina Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	1,600,000
<b>CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE &amp; ALLIED SERVICES</b>							
6.1	2.64	EE Corp.	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.6	192,000
2.75	6	Federal Resources Investment Group Inc.	13	13	13	13	5,000
9.2	4.95	Hotline Philippines Inc.	82	83	82	83	118,000
7	2.3	Repsol-Sinopec Philippines Corp.	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	113,000
2	0.44	Repulsa Agri-Industrial Holdings Inc.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	9,224,000
<b>CHEMICALS</b>							
6.3	3.75	Chemtrel Technologies Inc.	4.45	4.55	4.4	4.5	738,000
2.7	1.31	Cyma Corp. - Cyma Corp. Phils Inc.	1.98	2.2	1.98	2.2	27,000
<b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>							
<b>HOLDING FIRMS</b>							
3.3	6.55	A. Alabillo Corp.	3.4	3.45	3.2	3.25	1,250,000
0.17	0.039	AGU Net Holdings Inc.	0.11	0.115	0.11	0.11	13,250,000
1.28	0.225	APG Group Inc.	0.72	0.73	0.72	0.72	4,570,000
3.65	1.5	ATM Holdings Inc. A	2.85	3	2.85	2.9	631,000
3.7	1.5	ATM Holdings Inc. B					

# RP, US sign accord to boost Subic, Maryland ecozone trade

Agreement a significant inroad for Subic freeport

By Ronnel W. Domingo

OFFICIALS FROM THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY in the United States have signed a memorandum of understanding with a US local government aimed at expanding merchandise traffic and investment flows between Subic and a Maryland economic zone.

Armand C. Arreza, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority administrator, said in a statement that the MOU signed last Oct. 22 was meant to enhance bonds of cooperation between Subic and Prince George's County, Maryland's foreign trade zone.

"This opens up a huge window of opportunity for Subic, and we would like to explore all the possibilities that this new partnership offers," Arreza said.

The official added that the agreement was a significant inroad for the Subic freeport as the SBMA widened its cooperation links in global trade and sought more foreign direct investment.

He said the signatures of the MOU included Philippine Ambassador Willy G. Gaa, Prince George's County Executive Jack B. Johnson and David M. Valderrama, president of the International Council of Asian-American Business Executives.

"This is aimed at facilitating the sharing of experiences and best practices between the two

trade zones, improve the quality of operations and logistical efficiency of companies located in both zones, and link the Port of Subic with Maryland's Port of Baltimore," Arreza said.

He added that the exchange of trade information and best practices would be invaluable to Subic because Maryland hosts four trade zones and the Baltimore port, a major center of maritime commerce in the United States.

"Subic has been a military port for over a century and it is only now that its potentials for trade are being realized," Arreza said. "As a commercial port, Subic could learn a lot from Baltimore, which has over 300 years of experience in cargo-handling."

In an effort to develop Subic into a regional logistics and service hub, SBMA has ramped up the freeport's cargo-handling capacity to 600,000 twenty-foot equivalent

units and has been wooing investments in terminal operation, drydocking and ship repair, shipbuilding and warehousing.

For its part, the Port of Baltimore—with six public terminals and 30 private terminals stretched over a 45-mile shoreline—is considered the top-ranking port on the US East Coast in terms of roll-on/roll-off cargo operations.

river view Resort & Conference Center Calamba - In the heart of Calabarzon		Makab Line (02) 893-5074 to 79 Mobile Line (092) 420-8507 Calamba (049) 545-2421 to 24 Website: www.riverview.com.ph
BED & BREAKFAST PROMO		SEMINAR PACKAGE
P1,899	- De Luxe Room	P 980 • Platinum
P2,199	- Jr. Executive Room	P 785 • Gold
P2,399	- Executive Room	P 695 • Silver

## Gigabyte U60

### Ultra Mobile PC

Genuine Microsoft® Windows XP Home® Vista Support  
 VIA® Esther Mobile Technology  
 VIA Esther ULV C7-M / Wi-Fi / Bluetooth  
 30 GB Hard Drive / USB Port / Card Reader  
 DDR2-533 768MB on board  
 Touch screen with QWERTY keyboard  
 6.5" TFT-LCD WVGA, 800x480, with LED backlight  
 Integrated 300K Pixel Web Camera  
 Dimension: 190\*120.8\*28.3 mm  
 Weight: 740g  
**Php39,999**  
 exclusively at:

**QUBE**  
 (02)4107823

buy computers online  
[www.buyqube.com](http://www.buyqube.com)

GLORY (032) 412-4404 / 412-4442 | DAYCO (082) 227-5943 | SMC (0920) 9007230 | SUN (0922) 4106849

**PELAC Your Dollar & Pesos Growth Potential**

**Preferred Dollar Plus Preferred PesosPlus Preferred Multiplier**

Investment Funds of Variable Life Insurance	Valuation Date 10/26/07	Valuation Date 10/13/07
PELAC Dollar Bond Fund	1.3103	1.3083
PELAC Pesos Fixed Income Fund	1.2145	1.2072
PELAC Pesos Equity Fund	1.3942	1.3978
PELAC Balanced Fund	1.0325	1.0351

These investment funds are specific to variable life insurance contracts and are not considered mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission.

\*Based on price as of December 2007

**PSBank**  
**U\$Dollar**  
 TIME DEPOSIT

	\$1,000 to 9,999	\$10,000 to 49,999	\$50,000 to 99,999	\$100,000 and up
1 month	3.50%	3.50%	3.63%	3.75%
2 months	3.50%	3.63%	3.75%	3.88%
3 months	3.63%	3.75%	3.75%	3.88%
6 months	3.75%	3.88%	3.88%	4.00%
12 months	3.88%	4.00%	4.13%	4.25%

Rates are subject to change without prior notice, on per annum basis and subject to 7.5% withholding tax.

Manage your account online via PSBank Remote Banking.  
 Open a time deposit now in any of 162 branches nationwide.

For more information, text PSBANK USTD <your name> <branch no> <email address>  
 Then send to 381-772 for Smart or 0917-8602327 for Globe and other networks or  
 visit our website at [www.psbank.com.ph](http://www.psbank.com.ph)

Member of the FDIC. Minimum Deposit Requirement for each Deposit is P25,000.



COME TO WHERE  
 YOUR HEART  
 BELONGS



At Lions Park Residences, embrace nature-friendly living with pleasure. Take a breeze while admiring the lush surroundings of this urban community which boasts of amenities such as a multi-purpose hall, a landscaped park, a swimming pool and a playground complete with a fish pond and a butterfly garden.

Designed for comfort and convenience, it is only 15 minutes away from Makati CBD, 35 minutes away from Ortigas CBD and 10 minutes away from NAIA 3.

Everything you need is just a few steps away from this haven you'll love to call your own. Feel secured as you choose from a 1-bedroom unit of 30 square meters, a 2-bedroom unit of 42 square meters or a combined unit of both.

FOR MORE DETAILS, CALL:  
**894.5568**  
[www.lionsparkresidences.com](http://www.lionsparkresidences.com)

A project of:



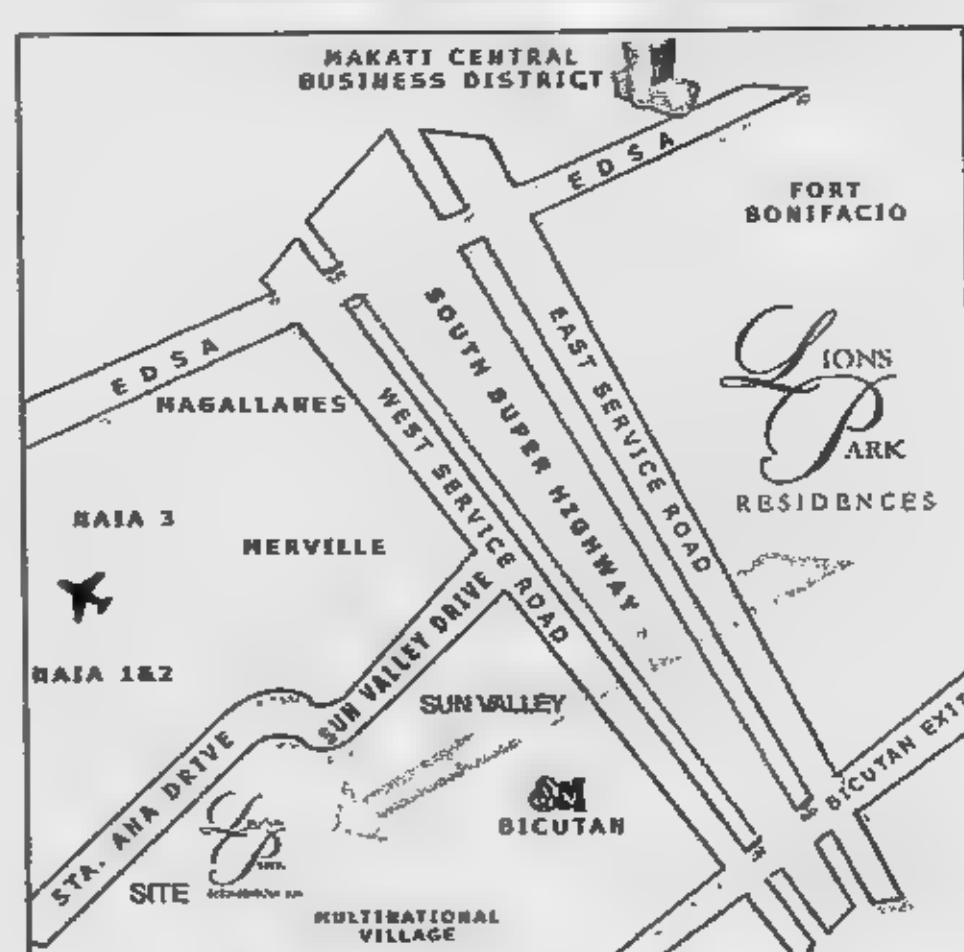
Exclusively marketed by:



Antelope Building is already sold out!

**READY TO MOVE IN!**

Camel and Butterfly Buildings  
 are currently on-going construction.  
 Turnover date: March 2008



# GMA ready for mobile TV competition

Network sets aside P200 million to study, test digital television

By Riza T. Olchendra

**GMA NETWORK SAID IT WAS NOT threatened by telecommunications companies offering mobile TV, saying it was ready to compete if regulators blur the line between telecommunications and broadcasting.**

"The issue is not competition. The issue is legal," GMA president and CEO Felipe Gozon said in a briefing last week.

"The mobile phone is like a TV set. It can read the same programs that the TV can. But the telcos have no broadcasting authority under their franchise. Telecommunications is only for voice and data. It is not for broadcasting or entertainment. So the NTC (National Telecommunications Commission) is now hard-put to place this activity among the bakers of permits that they have issued. It (mobile TV) might not be worth our time and effort," he said.

Then again, it might be.

Gozon acknowledged that the mobile TV market cannot be ignored. After all, there are far more handsets in the hands of consumers than there are TV sets in their homes.

Of the estimated 13.8 million Philippine households, 9.8 million have TV sets, according to the National Population Census 2000.

In contrast, a total of 50 million

GSM subscribers are expected to be registered by year-end by Smart Communication Inc. and Globe Telecom Inc., both of whom have ventured into mobile TV.

How many of these GSM subscribers will actually switch to 3G and watch mobile TV is another story, but GMA Network is not taking any chances.

GMA executive vice president and COO Gilberto Duavit Jr. said the network has set aside P200 million to study digital TV and undertake tests, for which a permit has been secured.

Mobile TV is seen to revolutionize the broadcast industry because it delivers content to many viewers on the fly.

This could do away with programming for "prime time," the time slot traditionally ranging from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Digital programming also allows broadcast companies to cram six high-quality multimedia streams in one 6MHz bandwidth.

In analog programming, GMA can only broadcast "Marimar" in the 8:30 to 9 p.m. weeknight time slot. Digitally, GMA can add five digital programs tackling sports, technology, education, travel and movies in the same time slot.

"If that happens, we can continue just offering content to partners but we can also broadcast directly to the device. So we are covered," Gozon said in Filipino.



**BRIDGING THE DIVIDE**

Residents of Barangay Libi in Malapatan, Sarangani now enjoy safe access from their farmland to nearby trading centers with the completion of the Libi footbridge. The footbridge was built by USAID's Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) Program in partnership with the municipal government of Malapatan.

## DA calls for more investments in ingredients industry

By Amy R. Remo

**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** has urged the private sector to invest more in the booming natural ingredients industry.

According to Alice G. Ilaga, head of the Department of Agriculture's Biotechnology Program Office, only a few firms have put their money in this industry estimated to be worth at least \$1 billion worldwide, and growing.

The DA-BPO is currently encourag-

ing more investments in the cultivation of malunggay, sambong, banaba, lagundi, mangosteen, chichirica, tuyang dilaw, saluyot, bewang and atswee, which could be developed to meet global demand for natural ingredients.

"If we want to satisfy the local requirements in malunggay, we need as much as 500,000 hectares. Right now, we barely come close to [supplying] local needs alone," she said.

Ilaga said the demand for natural

ingredients was growing because of the consumers' growing preference for nutritious food and organic products.

"Unfortunately, the Philippines has yet to tap the \$1-billion world market for natural ingredients. As of now, our market share is probably very insignificant, at less than one percent," she explained.

To speed up the development of the local industry, Ilaga said the DA-BPO planned to put up different research

stations across the country.

She explained that these stations will focus on the research and propagation of certain indigenous plants.

Ilaga also recommended the establishment of standards and benchmarks to ensure that all raw materials derived from plants would be accepted by the world market.

For this reason, Ilaga said the DA-BPO has been asking for more funds to be used in clinical trials, facilities and further studies.

## Meralco cuts system losses

By Abigail L. Ho

THE LOPEZ-LED MANILA ELECTRIC CO. reduced system losses to only 9.12 percent in the third quarter, below the 9.5-percent cap set by the Energy Regulatory Commission.

A low system loss is beneficial to distribution utilities such as Meralco, as every time they go beyond the 9.5-percent cap, they have to absorb a loss because the excess can no longer be passed on to electricity consumers.

System losses within the 9.5-percent cap can still be charged to customers as part of their monthly electricity bills.

Meralco attributed its improved third quarter system loss, which was 0.72 percentage points lower than the 9.84 percent posted in the same period last year, to its intensified campaign against electricity pilferage and the increased share of primary-metered sales in the overall sales mix.

"The campaign against illegal connections and pilferers of electricity led to the apprehension of 7,096 registered services and the arrest of 31 persons involved in the illegal activity. This effort resulted in the recovery of P197 million from payments made by the violators for their previously unbilled consumption," the distribution utility said.

The recovered amounts from the payments were returned as discounts in the generation charges of Meralco customers. In the third quarter, this discount amounted to 2.6 centavos a kilowatt-hour (kWh), it added.

To further boost its campaign against power pilferers, Meralco inked separate agreements with the city governments of Manila, Pasay and Quezon on July 25, Aug. 29 and Oct. 26, respectively.

Apart from its intensified efforts against illegal connections, Meralco also attributed its improved third quarter system loss to the increase in the share of primary-metered sales to 29.67 percent from 29.41 percent in the same period the year before.

Meralco explained that energy sales from higher service voltages had lower inherent losses compared to the same energy sales at the lower service voltages.

This was because the electricity transmitted to the end-user passed through fewer lines and substations, thus reducing technical losses.

For the first nine months, Meralco's system loss rate stood at 10.62 percent. The 12-month moving average, on the other hand, was pegged at 9.79 percent.

## Politics ...

From page B1

the help of privatization proceeds by next year. However, credit-rating agencies do not give much weight on nonrecurrent revenues when evaluating sovereign credit.

"There has been no material improvement in tax collections to support sustained increase in spending on infrastructure and social services," Neumann said.

The HSBC economist thus ruled out the possibility of a sovereign credit-rating upgrade for the Philippines "for the foreseeable future."

The Philippines is currently rated at two notches below the much-covered investment grade by Fitch, three notches below by Standard & Poor's and four notches below by Moody's.

Neumann said the string of political scandals in the country was starting to hurt the Arroyo administration's ability to manage economy.

He said the scandals have "eroded the public goodwill that had been rebuilt as result of faster economic activity and a stronger Philippine peso allowing for easy monetary stance by the central bank."

First, he cited the administration's move to cancel the national broadband project with Chinese firm ZTE Corp. on allegations of bribes being offered to certain officials and local businessmen that failed to win the deal.

Despite the government's backtracking, public pressure has forced the administration to conduct an investigation into the allegations in addition to the Senate conducting its own investigation into the incident, he said.

Neumann also cited perceptions that administration officials had given out money packets to lawmakers at a breakfast meeting with the President on Oct. 10.

He noted that this latest incident had triggered a surprise negative reaction from the Catholic Church, which he described as an institution which has the ability to sway public opinion.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines has supported the Senate's plan to formally investigate the allegations of money distribution at the breakfast meeting.

While there was little hard evidence of misconduct or delivering of cash to certain lawmakers, Neumann said the incident has further tarnished President Arroyo's administration as well as the ruling Lakas-CMD image with the public.

"We view the recent political scandals as severely undermining the President's ability to persuade the Congress to pass new policy initiatives to advance structural reforms," Neumann said.

He projected that the opposition-controlled Senate and other special interest groups would be focused on investigating the recent allegations of misconduct and allegations against the government and lawmakers supporting the President.

**A RECENT GATHERING OF REPRESENTATIVES** from 26 countries held at the UP Diliman campus brought together people unhappy with the way their respective economies, and the global economy as a whole, have perpetuated ever-widening disparities within and among countries.

The Asian Forum for Solidarity Economy drew hundreds of people from various walks of life, all sharing a desire to find an alternative economic order to the one we know, where a few typically reap benefits at the expense of many others.

As the name suggests, the economy they seek is one where all players work together toward a shared goal of uplifting the lives of all—that is, an economy built on solidarity rather than on competition and conflict.

### Inherent conflict

The problem is, conflict and tension are inherent in the market economy as we know it.

Consumers want to pay as low a price as possible for the goods and services they buy, but producers and sellers want to charge as high a price as possible for the same goods and services. Workers want to receive as high a wage as possible from employers. On the other hand, employers are out to pay as low wages as possible to the workers they hire.

Borrowers want to pay as low interest as possible on the loans they obtain from their creditors, but the latter want to charge as high interest as possible. This basic conflict of motives is seen many times over among the players in the various kinds of transactions made in any market

### No FREE LUNCH

Cielito E. Habito



economy day after day.

The modern economy, it seems, is built on such conflicting motives among its various players.

### Invisible hand

To Adam Smith, considered the father of modern economics, such inherent conflict is natural and necessary. He once postulated that the combined actions of all players in the economy, acting on the basis of each one's self-interest, gives rise to an "invisible hand" that yields efficient outcomes.

For as long as there are large enough numbers of such players and there is free competition among them, market forces will automatically yield the right allocation of the economy's resources and the goods and services they produce.

But does "right" allocation here mean a fair or equitable allocation? This, unfortunately, is where Smith's "invisible hand" fails.

In the direct conflict of motives between buyers and sellers, workers and employers, and debtors and creditors, there is rarely a balance of power between the contending sides, and one side or the other is bound to get the proverbial shorter end of the stick.

In everyday transactions within a

competitive economy, there are bound to be winners and losers; win-win outcomes are not the rule, but the exception.

### Social responsibility

Solidarity economy advocates believe that such outcome need not be inevitable. Along with our basic instinct for pursuing self interest, human beings also possess an instinct for altruism, that is, for caring and sharing. This same instinct leads us to value the common good and moves us to certain behaviors that may not necessarily promote our own best self interest all the time.

This instinct comes into play, for example, when a banker or financier chooses to extend credit to smaller, struggling enterprises when dealing with fewer but larger borrowers would appear to be more profitable.

Or an investor deliberately chooses to put funds into a socially responsible enterprise over another that is clearly more lucrative but with possibly adverse social or environmental impacts. Or an entrepreneur opts to forego maximizing profits in favor of providing wider benefits for the firm's workers or customers.

The recent Asian Forum showcased, through exhibits and presentations, real-world models of socially responsible finance, socially responsible investments and socially responsible enterprises, both here and abroad.

In so doing, the forum demonstrated that a more caring economy is indeed possible, while sowing the seeds of a movement that would propagate the ideal of an economy that exemplifies the Filipino concept of bayanihan, which aptly captures the very concept of the solidarity economy.

### 'Bayanihan' products

Prominent Philippine entries included the recently established Bayanihan Banking Window, a partnership between Planters Bank and the CSRSME Asia, which provides a venue for caring investors to deliberately make their funds available to finance socially responsible enterprises.

Also featured was a company that produces the Bayanihan Food Pack, an inexpensive package composed of ready-to-cook meat, vegetables and rice designed to feed a typical poor family for up to two meals.

The company is able to keep the food pack cheap by cutting through the supply chain and procuring directly from farm producers, and environments supplying low-income communities around the country with decent meals that are both nutritious and affordable.

The movement for a solidarity economy has already taken root in North America and Latin America, as attested by forum participants from those regions.

The recent Asian Forum planted the seeds for a similar movement in the Philippines and the rest of Asia, and culminated in pledges of commitment from numerous stakeholders in the finance, enterprise, academe and media sectors to help in spreading and nurturing the seeds of what would be better described in the Philippines as a Bayanihan Economy.

Comments welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu.

## Subsidies to state firms hit P15.5B

From page B1

dues to GOCCs and GFIs defeated the goal set by authorities to reduce the financial dependence of state-owned firms on the national government, which is trying to put its own fiscal house in order.

The DOF had wanted to reduce the subsidies granted to state-owned firms to force them to become less dependent on the national government. But the DOF had said that the increase in subsidies could not be avoided because of the implementation of more social-welfare programs

by the state-owned firms that needed additional funding.

The DOF earlier cited the conduct of additional livelihood programs of the Technical Resource and Livelihood Center and the increase in housing projects of the National Housing Authority as some of the reasons for the increase in subsidies.

The DOF also noted that spending for the government's comprehensive agrarian reform program (CARP) also formed part of the subsidies. Although Land Bank of the Philippines is financially stable, it receives state

subsidies because it is tasked to facilitate the distribution of funds for the CARP, officials said.

The government programmed to limit the subsidies to state-owned firms to only P4.89 billion for the entire 2007. The goal, however, has already been breached since the end of the first half.

The subsidies in January to September this year had also surpassed the P13.81 billion recorded for the entire 2006.

Although the need of state-owned firms for subsidies increased, the DOF

noted that they have been contributing to state coffers in the form of dividends remitted to the national government. The DOF earlier reported that GOCCs and GFIs remitted a combined P8.84 billion in dividends in the first nine months.

The DOF said it has intensified its auditing of the financial statements of GOCCs and GFIs to help ensure that they remit accurate amounts of dividends. State-owned firms are mandated to give at least 50 percent of their net income to the national government.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

## BUSINESS

B3

# Export of coco products bounced back in Sept.

By Amy R. Remo

**EXPORTS OF MAJOR COCONUT PRODUCTS** bounced back in September this year, growing by 14.5 percent from the same month of the previous year, according to the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (Ucap).

A total of 153,170 metric tons in copra terms were shipped that month.

Ucap's preliminary data showed that in September 2006, exports had reached 133,825 metric tons.

Last month's shipments were also higher by 4.4 percent, compared to August exports, which had reached 146,721 MT.

According to Ucap, the increase could be solely credited to coconut oil, exports of which rose by 24 percent to 78,328 MT from the 63,166 MT recorded in the

same period last year.

Exports of other coconut products however slumped.

For copra meal, export volume plunged by 43 percent to 24,233 MT from 42,506 MT; desiccated coconut delivery fell by 11.7 percent to 10,047 MT from 11,373 MT; while oleochemicals as copra exports slid by 16.7 percent to 13,306 MT from 15,978 MT.

Initial Ucap figures showed that Europe was last month's top destination, with shipments reaching 37,500 MT. This represented 47.9 percent of total sales.

The US meanwhile imported 30,536 MT, accounting for 39 percent of total sales.

Other importers were Japan, which imported 5,292 MT (6.8 percent share); Malaysia with 3,000 MT (3.8 percent), and China with 2,000 MT (2.6 percent).

Exports of copra meal were almost equally split between Korea, with shipments amounting to 12,300 MT, and Vietnam, with 11,933 MT.

From January to September, exports had reached a total of 1.16 million MT in copra terms, which is 25.2 percent lower than the 1.55 million MT recorded in the same period last year.

As of September this year, Ucap said coconut oil exports had reached 582,845, down 28.8 percent from last year's 818,130 MT; copra meal at 262,549 MT, down 20.4 percent from 329,680 MT;

desiccated coconut at 96,311 MT, down 7.7 percent from 104,345 MT; and, oleochemicals as copra at 85,159 MT, down 4.1 percent from 88,823 MT.

In 2006, total coconut exports reached 2.03 million MT in copra terms, down 5 percent from the previous year's 2.14 million MT.

That year, coconut oil was the lead export product at 1.07 million MT, followed by copra meal at 429,965 MT.

As for local production, Ucap earlier said that total coconut output is expected to slide by 8.9 percent in 2007 to 2.24 million MT in copra terms, as the industry is still reeling from the adverse effects of storms that had hit the country in the last semester of 2006.

The Philippine Coconut Authority has projected an even lower production of 2.17 million MT, a 12-percent decline from last year's production.

In 2006, coconut production reached 2.47 million metric tons in copra terms, down from the previous year's 2.65 million metric tons.

According to data from the PCA, about 42 million coconut trees were damaged by Typhoon "Reming" alone, which ravaged southern Luzon in late November.

However, PCA administrator Oscar Ganin said he expects coconut production to rise to 2.4 million metric tons in 2008, all the way up to 3 million metric tons in 2010.

He said the increase would be brought on partly by the P100-million intercropping program the agency had implemented in the first half of the year.

## Metrobank links up with US remittance firm

By Doris C. Dumla

### Regulator appoints seventh wholesale aggregator

By Abigail L. Ho

IN PREPARATION for the implementation of retail competition and open access, the Energy Regulatory Commission has appointed GNP Power Ltd. Co. to be the country's seventh wholesale aggregator.

According to the ERC, as a wholesale aggregator, GNP Power can consolidate the power demand of distribution utilities for the purpose of purchasing and reselling electricity on a group basis.

As a wholesale aggregator, GNP Power will serve distribution utilities for its captive market.

As a retail electricity supplier (RES), the firm will attend to contestable market customers, apart from traders at the wholesale electricity spot market (WESM).

GNP Power currently holds forward power supply contracts, which will take effect in 2011, with 13 distribution utilities. These power distributors can also serve as the power firm's prospective clients for its wholesale aggregation business.

On top of that, GNP Power could also serve the contestable market as an RES, having acquired a license from the ERC.

As for trading in the WESM, under the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001, the ERC can authorize entities similar to GNP Power to become eligible members of the electricity bourse.

"Wholesale aggregation is one innovative concept which has emerged as the electric power industry shifts to a competitive structure," ERC chair Rodolfo Albano Jr. said.

GNP Power was organized in 2002 as a limited partnership designed to operate and own a power generation project and transmission line in the country.

The power firm is currently developing a 600-megawatt clean coal-fired power plant near Mariveles, Bataan, which is expected to be fully operational by 2011.

die East, Singapore and Japan, who can easily remit money to their beneficiaries for as long as they have a Metrobank deposit account."

With a click of a button, Xoom customers can deposit money to any Metrobank account, and the money will be available to the recipient in a few hours. By logging on to [www.xoom.com](http://www.xoom.com), money can be sent to existing Metrobank depositors in the Philippines.

Remittances can be funded using a bank account, credit card, debit card or PayPal, a web-based account that serves as an electronic alternative to traditional modes such as checks and money orders.

"Serving Filipino remitters is very important to the United States, Europe, Mid-

Xoom," said John Kunze, president and CEO of Xoom. "Our partnership with Metrobank will enable us to provide much faster deposits to Metrobank accounts and greater convenience to both senders and receivers."

Metrobank is the Philippines' largest bank, with consolidated assets of P669.3 billion as of June 2007. It is the flagship company of the Metrobank Group, which has a network of over 800 domestic and international offices, operating in 21 countries.

Xoom Corp. was founded in 2001 in San Francisco and is backed by leading venture firms Sequoia Capital, New Enterprise Associates and Fidelity Ventures.

## BIR urged to release Pall Mall stock in the market

By Michelle V. Remo

LA SUERTE CIGAR & Cigarette Factory is pressing the Bureau of Internal Revenue to allow the release of Pall Mall cigarettes from its production facility.

The tobacco firm has expressed its concern over the brand's dwindling presence in the market.

La Suerte is the local partner of British American Tobacco (BAT) in the production and distribution of Pall Mall cigarettes.

The BIR refuses to release the stock of Pall Mall cigarettes from the factory due to the unresolved tax issue involving the brand.

Under the country's tax laws, excise tax on cigarettes and other covered products are imposed.

Competitors also said that, because the BIR had already made a ruling on the applicable tax rate, then it should be followed.

They said that the Sin Tax

law prohibits a downward tax reclassification of cigarettes.

But La Suerte and BAT stressed that there was no downward reclassification because the BIR's ruling was never implemented in the first place, having been immediately contradicted by the DOF.

La Suerte and BAT stressed that locally manufactured Pall Mall was introduced in the market prior to importation by duty-free shops.

The excise tax rate should therefore not be based on its importation.

The two added that importation of Pall Mall had ended last year.

Following the submission of appeals by the competitors, the DOF has subjected Pall Mall taxation under review. The DOF is currently gathering legal opinions on the matter.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

The competitors said that, since Pall Mall used to be imported by duty-free shops, the brand should be charged the higher excise tax rate.

They stressed that, under the Sin Tax law of 2005, imported cigarettes are imposed the higher excise tax.

Competitors also said that, because the BIR had already made a ruling on the applicable tax rate, then it should be followed.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

The competitors said that, since Pall Mall used to be imported by duty-free shops, the brand should be charged the higher excise tax rate.

They stressed that, under the Sin Tax law of 2005, imported cigarettes are imposed the higher excise tax.

Competitors also said that, because the BIR had already made a ruling on the applicable tax rate, then it should be followed.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was only P6.74 per pack.

The DOF's decision elicited protests from competing cigarette makers, including Philip Morris and Fortune Tobacco.

They said that the Sin Tax

rate should be slapped a tax rate of P26 per pack.

But the Department of Finance, the BIR's mother agency, overturned the ruling and said the applicable tax rate was

# Competition among banks still tough, study shows

By Doris C. Dumiao

**COMPETITION AMONG PHILIPPINE BANKS** remains stiff despite the decline in the number of players as a result of big mergers and acquisitions, a Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas study indicated.

In its latest report on the financial system submitted to Malacañang and Congress, the BSP said it had conducted a study on the competitive structure of the domestic universal and commercial banking industry to assess the likely impact of recent bank mergers on the industry.

"The study revealed that the

level of current market concentration in the universal/commercial banking system is still relatively low, both in terms of loans and deposits, thereby indicating a generally competitive market," the BSP said.

The central bank's report was based on developments in the first semester, during which the landmark merger between Equitable PCI Bank and Banco de Oro Universal Bank was consummated.

Prior to this deal, other big mergers were completed, such

as those between Bank of the Philippine Islands and Prudential Bank, and Union Bank of the Philippines and International Exchange Bank.

The BSP said the overall bank structure in the country was trimmed by 13 operating banks to 858 as of end-June from 871 a year ago.

"The changing banking landscape driven by the growing sophistication of financial markets and large investment outlays required for new technologies

prompted banks questing for larger market size, better competitive advantage, higher profits and overall strategic footing to consolidate," the BSP said.

The report said the banking system was in a much better position to face the challenges of a rapidly changing global financial environment.

The BSP admitted that the overall performance for the first semester may be modest compared to international standards but noted that it still un-

derscored the notable improvement in banks' balance sheets on account of continuous asset clean-up and capital build-up.

"Profitability indicators were impressive during the semester in review and highly indicative of banks' efficient maximization of potential revenue streams," the report said.

During the review period, the BSP said there were 38 operating universal and commercial banks with 4,259 branches, 83 thrift banks with 1,250 branch-

es and 737 rural and cooperative banks with 1,371 branches at end-June 2007.

The BSP said the banking system's solvency ratio remained well above its requirement of 10 percent and the international standard of 8 percent on account of increased capital-raising activities of banks as part of their preparations for the Basle 2 capital adequacy requirement.

Core earnings in the first semester remained strong, the BSP reported, as net income after tax rose by 17.6 percent to P32.8 billion from 14.6 percent in the same period last year.

## Nissan seen boosting RP, India operations

By Ronnel W. Domingo

**CHIBA CITY, JAPAN**—AUTO maker Nissan is ramping up its Philippine facilities amid a global thrust to build vehicles aimed at lower-income markets in Asia and rest of the world, company officials said.

Andy Palmer, Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. corporate vice president, said in an interview that the firm's successful programs in the Philippines was being tried out in other parts of the world, especially as it attempts to rebuild its light commercial vehicle business.

"In 2002, we were almost out of the LCV business and (since then) we have been working to rebuild our business globally," said Palmer, who is responsible for Nissan's LCV business unit.

"We want to get stronger in some countries that we are not strong enough. In Asia, we have on our radar India and other growing markets like the Philippines," he added.

Palmer said Nissan was developing new vehicles, like the NV 200 van, which if and when it comes into fruition would most likely end up in the Philippine market.

"We are currently working with Elizabeth Lee [Universal Motors Corp. executive vice president] in the Philippines and also with our partners in Thailand to set up a proper business unit structure for LCVs in ASEAN," Palmer said.

UMC, one of Nissan's two

Philippine units, is focused on pick-ups and vans while Nissan Motor Philippines Inc. is into the assembly of passenger cars.

"Our ASEAN plans represent a clear intent to do more than what we are doing now both in the production and marketing aspects," Palmer said.

The Tokyo-based official cited UMC's marketing approach of positioning the Urvan as a multipurpose vehicle that middle income buyers, like the families of overseas Filipino workers, could use for small businesses.

"We are replicating globally what (Lee) has been doing in the Philippines and UMC is a kind of benchmark," Palmer said.

Palmer said he was keeping tabs on the Philippines considering that, with a population of at least 80 million and its recent economic growth of about 7 percent, presented a big market potential.

"Usually, when the economy is growing at that rate, people are buying more LCVs which you need to make money," he said.

In a separate interview, Colin Dodge, Nissan senior vice president for global overseas markets, said Nissan's production plants in Laguna have "a very bright prospect."

"We intend to develop the competitiveness of (the Philippine) plants from good to very, very good," Dodge said. "The Philippines is today one of our LCV manufacturing bases in the world."

## CORPORATE ROUNDUP

### Meralco nets P2.8B in 9 months

**MANILA ELECTRIC CO.** POSTED A NET INCOME OF P480 MILLION in the third quarter, boosting profits in the first nine months to P2.8 billion.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, Meralco said its third-quarter net income was 101 percent higher than the P229 million in the same period last year. The nine-month profit this year was 370 percent higher than year-ago level.

Revenue rose 15.5 percent to P155.89 billion in the first nine months. Of the amount, Meralco said P8.75 billion had yet to be billed to customers.

In the third quarter Meralco registered volume sales of 6,822 gigawatt-hours (GWh), 6 percent higher than year-ago level. *Abigail L. Ho*

### Smart's 'Coastline Roaming'

**SMART COMMUNICATIONS INC.** HAS TIED UP WITH FOREIGN telecom firms to offer mobile roaming connectivity on board cruise ships and luxury ferries worldwide.

The service, called Coastline Roaming, allows postpaid and prepaid Smart subscribers to send and receive calls and text messages on select cruise ships and liners without having to change their phone numbers or handsets.

In a statement, Smart said it was the first Philippine telco to offer this service. Its foreign partners for the service are AT&T (Cingular) of the United States, Telecom Italia, Italy, and Manx Maritime, Isle of Man and Maritime Communications Partner (MCP), Norway. OceanCell of Iceland is another upcoming partner.

Services using coastline roaming follow the same billing principles as regular land-based roaming. *Riza T. Olchondra*

### ATSC ferry unit gets P28M

**INTER-ISLAND FERRY SUPERCAT FAST FERRY CORP.** IS SET TO GET A CAPITAL INFUSION OF P28 million from parent firm Aboitiz Transport System Corp. through a sale of shares.

ATSC's board has approved the subscription to an additional 140,000 common shares of SFFC. The acquisition will increase its ownership of SFFC from 20,000 to 160,000 common shares.

Last month, ATSC bought SFFC for P13.7 million from its affiliate Accura.

"The acquisition is part of our strategy of integrating all the Aboitiz interests in the transport and logistics industry under ATSC. The consolidation of its transport related businesses aims to enhance the synergy of the group," ATSC earlier said. *Riza T. Olchondra*



**AGRICULTURE SECRETARY ARTHUR YAP** injects "Aratra" (pesticide) into a coconut tree as he leads efforts of the department to combat coconut pests and control the spread of the coconut leaf beetle (scientifically known as *Brontispa longissima gestro*) in one of the barangays in Panglao, Bohol. The department said the proper inoculation procedure would address the problem in infested sites and insulate the uninfected coconut trees.

## DA eyes partnership with Del Monte

**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** IS IN talks with Del Monte Philippines for a possible partnership for the supply of cattle meat to the DA's bagsakan centers and barangay food terminals in Metro Manila.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap said the DA was asking the company to supply these retail outlets premium cut meat products.

Bagsakan centers and BFTs sell basic food items—including rice, meat and vegetables—at prices about 12 percent lower than their regular retail prices.

Del Monte has expressed support for the DA's campaign to bring agricultural products from the provinces, particularly in Mindanao, directly to markets in Metro Manila.

Yap said he believed that this partnership with Del Monte would help bring down the prices of meat products in Mega and Metro Manila.

According to Del Monte plantation manager Bunnie Jaranilla, Del Monte is now studying the terms of the arrangement and its costing, considering that it imports its cattle.

The initial plan is to supply a minimum of four tons of carcass a week to selected bagsakan centers and BFTs, Jaranilla said.

According to Jaranilla, Del Monte is shipping to Manila about 400 heads of live cattle a month.

Under the proposed tie-up, both parties have agreed to have the meat vacuum packed and shipped via refrigerated vans and cold chain facilities.

As with Brittany's creative 'lifescapes'

Bagsakan centers and BFTs provide farmers with direct access or link to wet markets and consumers, and would help farmers earn more.

This link could eliminate unnecessary trading layers that jack up prices of agricultural produce and cut profits of small farmers and fisherfolk.

The DA has been putting up these centers in strategic locations across the country to help address the pressing problems on hunger and poverty.

Yap said BFTs had been set up in Quezon City, Manila, Taguig, Pasay City, Bulacan and Caloocan.

Bagsakan centers have been established in Valenzuela, Quezon City, Marikina, Pasig, Muntinlupa, Cavite and Manila. *Amy R. Remo*

## Brittany earmarks P1.2B for 2nd condo project

**INSPIRED BY THE SUCCESS OF MOSAIC**, a designer condo launched late last year, real estate developer Brittany Corp. adds a second development in Makati worth about P1.2 billion to its portfolio.

In partnership with the Kalaw-Ledesma family, Brittany launches KL Mosaic, a high-rise residential condominium that will marry art and architecture to enrich vertical living.

Vista Land president and CEO Jing Serrano said the warm market reception to Brittany's first project prompted the company

to start KL Mosaic. The company, Serrano said, takes the new project on a higher creative plane as shown in its collaboration with the Kalaw-Ledesmas.

The 32-storey residential condominium set to be completed in 2012 will house a gallery that residents and art patrons can enjoy. The gallery will occupy two levels and will exhibit the rare and priceless Kalaw-Ledesma art collection. It will also showcase the works of today's young and promising artists.

As with Brittany's creative 'lifescapes'

like Portofino, CrossWinds and Georgia Club, KL Mosaic is a fusion of ideas coming from the best disciplines in the industry.

It sits across Legazpi Park, so despite being surrounded by bustling urbanity, nature abounds and in full view from the roomy balcony. It is also conveniently located at the heart of Makati's shopping and business district.

Inside KL Mosaic, spaces are designed to let air circulate freely. It is also replete with exceptional amenities to satisfy the needs and wants of unit owners, from expats and investors to small families and young urban professionals.

## Two firms seeking CNG accreditation

By Abigail L. Ho

**TWO FOREIGN INVESTORS-BACKED** groups are seeking accreditation from the Department of Energy to put up facilities that will offer compressed natural gas (CNG) to motorists.

Mario Marasigan, energy utilization and management director of the DOE, said Synergy International Resources Group Co. Ltd. and Callandria LCNG Fuels Corp. had pending applications for accreditation.

"Their applications are still being processed. We still have to see their plans and their finances. We've asked for all the necessary documents from them so that we can properly evaluate them," he said.

The Shell Companies in the Philippines last week started the commercial run of its "mother" CNG station in Tabangao, Batan-

gas and its "daughter" CNG refilling station along the South Luzon Expressway in Biñan, Laguna.

The natural gas is extracted from the Malampaya Deep Water Gas-to-Power project in offshore Palawan, transported to the mother station for compression, and transported again, this time as CNG, to the daughter station.

The start of the commercial operation of the CNG mother-daughter stations means that the first 22 CNG-fed buses in the country can now start plying the Laguna-Cubao/Lawton and Batangas-Cubao/Lawton routes.

These CNG-fed buses would be enjoying a more than 50-percent cut in fuel costs, as CNG to be sold by Shell was priced at only P14.52 a liter.

The operation of Shell's mother-daughter stations forms part of the government's

Natural Gas Vehicle Program for Public Transport (NGVPP), a seven-year pilot program that will peg the price of CNG at P14.52 a liter, less than half the price of diesel, for participating bus operators.

The DOE expects 200 CNG-fed buses to be delivered to the country, 185 of which have already been allotted to accredited bus firms.

The accredited bus operators and their allocations include HM Transport Inc., 80 units; KL Transport, 40 units; RRCG Transport and Pascual Liner Inc., 20 units each; Greenstar Express Inc. and CNG Vehicles Corp., 10 units each, and BBL Transport System Inc., five units.

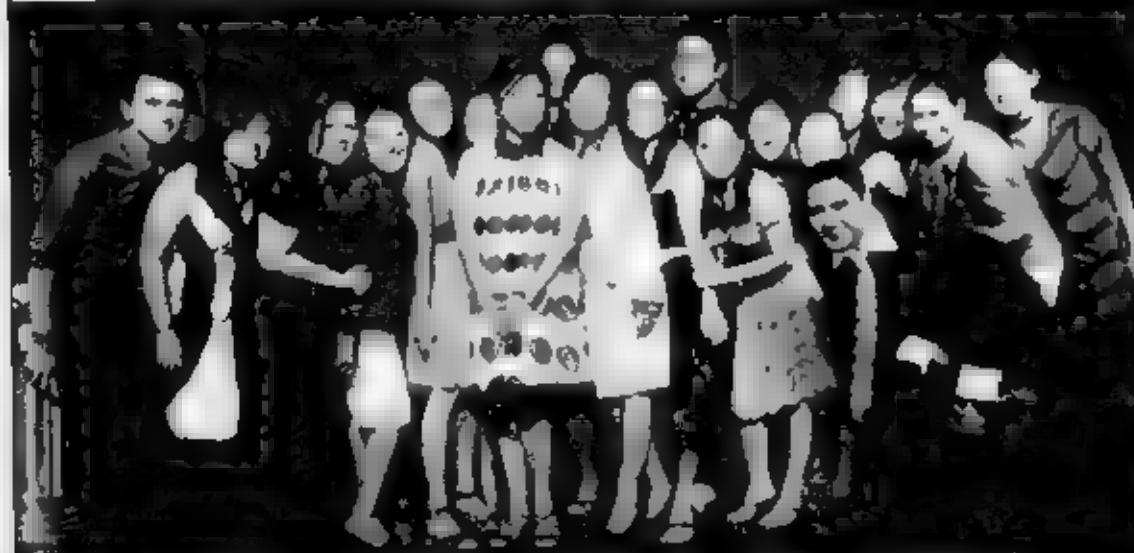
Marasigan said the seven-year NGVPP will determine the economic viability of using CNG for public transport.

"We need to see around 2,000 buses by the time the program ends," he said.



"Total Commitment, Excellent Performance for Business Innovation"

## CELEBRATING 14 YEARS OF COMMITMENT, EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION



August 23, 2007 marked ABM Computech Enterprises' 14th year of delivering total commitment, excellent performance and business innovations to the Philippine business solutions and consulting industry. This milestone was celebrated with a special anniversary event entitled "ABM at Teatrimo: A Thanksgiving Concert and Awards Night" held at Teatrimo, Greenhills. The main purpose of the event was to give special appreciation and recognition to partners, clients and employees alike, who have given and shown unending trust and support to ABM and its operations. The highlights included a special awarding ceremony and exciting musical performances by international renowned artists. The celebration was well-attended by ABM's local and global partners, customers and pool of employees.

1993 is the year that ABM began its drive to become a major provider of business software solutions carrying Platinum Accounting Software. ABM's thriving track record with Platinum Accounting Software fueled the addition of leading world-class business solutions to ABM's roster of products. Over the years, ABM has continued to create multi-solutions for the growing demands of every enterprise - from small and medium enterprises to organizations belonging to the Philippines' top 1,000 corporations.

As confirmation to ABM's growth and success in the industry are the numerous awards given by its global partners. Among it are Highest Annual Growth and International Sales Achievement Award from Epicor Software Corporation; Top Platinum International Distributor, Outstanding Sales Achievement- Asia, Highest Annual Revenue and Best International Sales Award and Outstanding Business Growth, Asia from Sage Software. On top of these, ABM won the National Consumers Excellence Award and was titled Outstanding Provider of Business Software Solutions, an award which is considered a trademark of quality and innovation in the Philippines.

Today, ABM's pioneering efforts have resulted to the growth of more and more businesses that undeniably contributes to economic recovery and nation building. It has sustained its growth and reinforced its proficiency in implementing solutions to various industries. With the successful completion of consulting and sales certifications of the best business solutions in the world namely BatchMaster Enterprise, e by EPICOR, Fourth Shift Edition, Manhattan Associates' Supply Chain Management, Microsoft Dynamics, Sage ACCPAC ERP, Sage MAS500, and SAP Business One, ABM has become the ultimate business enabler and strategic partner of successful companies. It has served over 700 local and international clients and has deployed consulting and programming teams to some well-known companies abroad in places such as Australia, Guam, California, Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea.

Now known as the one-stop-shop for world-class business software solutions with strategic backing from BayanTrade, ABM has strengthened its hold of leadership in the market and is continuing to deliver the highest quality of service to its valued clients. It has a vision and great direction for the future and will continue to support and promote the Philippine business community in achieving world-class systems and operations through leading automated business technology applications for many more years to come.

### SPONSORS:



<b>CLIENT AWARDS:</b>	
<b>PARTNER AWARDS:</b>	



Workcentric Solutions Consulting Inc is a leading professional services firm for the global and local companies looking on improving their business for better and smarter business decision. Workcentric specializes on Corporate Performance Management, Business Intelligence, Analytic Applications and Information Management. For more inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Aureo Castillo at +632 6870170 or email [adc@workcentric.com.ph](mailto:adc@workcentric.com.ph).

# 14TH ANNIVERSARY

### EMPLOYEE AWARDEES:

Ms. Ma. Christina R. Lescano  
*Top Sales Awardee*

Mr. Emerson Dennis M. Ladines  
*Top Consultant Awardee*

Mr. Lee Henry C. Salonga  
*Top Development Awardee*

Ms. Mary E. Yarzo  
*Top Manager Awardee*

Ms. Lilibeth R. Balucan  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Donnabel S. Jocson  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Mr. Lawrence A. Lustorio  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Charito D. Manuel  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Wilma E. Medallo  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Janette B. Muncada  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Kimberly R. Nevado  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Michelle S. Reyes  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Karen B. Tan  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Ms. Nerissa S. Vizcarra  
*Committed to Excellence Awardee*

Mr. Diosdado Montaño  
*Rookie of the Year Awardee*

### ABM Contact Details:

Main Office: 25th floor Pacific Star Bldg Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor.  
Makati Ave. Makati City, Philippines

Trunkline: (632) 810-8115 Email: [info@abm-computech.com](mailto:info@abm-computech.com)

Fax No's: (632) 8115427

Cebu Office: 906 Golden Peak Tower, Gorordo Ave., cor N. Escaro St.,  
Cebu City, Philippines

Telefax: (032) 232-7707

To 14 years  
of leadership  
and a new  
family.

Cheers!

A warm welcome to  
**ABM**

from

**BayanTrade**  
Group of Companies

The BayanTrade Group of Companies is the brainchild of the six biggest conglomerates in the Philippines: Abotiz & Company, Inc., Ayala Corporation, Benpres Holdings, Inc., JG Summit Holdings, Inc., Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, and United Laboratories, Inc.



[www.abm-computech.com](http://www.abm-computech.com)

Text us your feedback: Inquirer It name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

By Riza T. Olchondra

**T**IRED OF SONY ERICSSON'S form factor for the P series? If you are, you can heave a sigh of relief for the P1i has broken away with tradition, disposing of the characteristic "flip" cover and ditching the full QWERTY keyboard for a compact version that is similar to the M600.

Simple moves, but they make a world of difference.

In addition to enabling easier key-ins, the absence of a flip cover on this 3G Symbian smartphone sets off the keypad against the silver casing. The dedicated "back" button on the left side of the unit helps when you change your mind about an application or picture. The keys take some getting used to, but once you do, are a breeze to use.

Notably, the P1i screen is easier on the eyes. Not only is the TFT display large at 2.6 inches, it has a transreflective panel, which means that it can be read more easily outdoors than other screens in the P series. Sony Ericsson kept the touchscreen technology and added a jog-dial control that allows

## Sony Ericsson breaks ground with P1i



## Nokia set to hit high note with music-driven phones

ANOTHER SET OF MUSIC-DRIVEN phones is set to take the market by storm after Nokia's NSeries, this time positioning handsets as replacements for music devices.

"Traditionally the Nokia handset was built as a phone first and as a music device second. This is the first time that the music came first, and then the phone," Nokia Philippines general manager William Hamilton-Whyte said at the launching ceremony last Friday.

"Nokia has seen that music plays as big a part in the life of every Filipino as well as the mobile phone. People do not want a separate device for a phone, a music player, even for a camera and the Internet. So we put these together in one device."

Headlining Nokia's foray into the music business are the 5310 XpressMusic and the 5610 Xpress Music devices. The handsets feature dedicated music keys for easy access to playlists without closing other functions, such as "texting" and browsing.

Accessibility is nothing if you don't have any space for music, so the 5310 was built to hold up to 1,500 tracks on a 2GB microSD card and 3,000 tracks on an optional 4GB card. It also has a 2 megapixel camera, making it easier than ever to carry a single device for music and communication.

The 5610 packs more memory, capable of storing up to 3,000 songs on a 4GB microSD card and has a 3.2 megapixel camera to boot.

Other music-driven phones introduced by Nokia to the local market were the N81, the N81 8GB and the N95 8GB.

The N81 and N81 8GB can store up to 6,000 high-quality stereo songs with music playback of up to 22 hours, while the N95 8GB offers up to 20 hours of video or up to

6,000 songs on its luminous 2.8-inch screen.

With dedicated music and gaming keys, 3.5mm headphone connector and 3G and WLAN connectivity, the N81 and its beefed up brother the N81 8GB are mobile entertainment powerhouses. The two are also configured to find, buy, manage and play music and games from the Nokia Music Store and N Gage games service.

In the meantime, the N95, which Nokia prefers to call a "multimedia computer," has been jazzed up. Nokia kept all the key features, including a 5 megapixel camera with Carl Zeiss optics, built-in A-GPS for using maps to navigate, WLAN, HSDPA and an innovative two-way slide. But the N95 8GB, as the name implies, offers massive memory and great viewing on a luminous 2.8-inch screen.

Nokia's new wave of music-capable phones will be available in all Nokia Stores nationwide. Whyte said the company would be developing a larger distribution landscape through its own stores and partner-distributors. From 21 stores, including one in Dagupan City, Nokia is adding one in Southmall, one in Ayala-Cebu and one in Megamall.

Taking mobile phone care a step further, Nokia is soon to launch its Nokia Care Mobile Van.

Going forward, Whyte says music will continue to be at the forefront of Nokia Philippines' campaigns in the coming months.

Nokia is a world leader in mobile communications accounting for about one-third of the global market. There are about three billion mobile users all over the world 900 million of whom are using Nokia devices.

Riza T. Olchondra

## Traveling in style with Acer

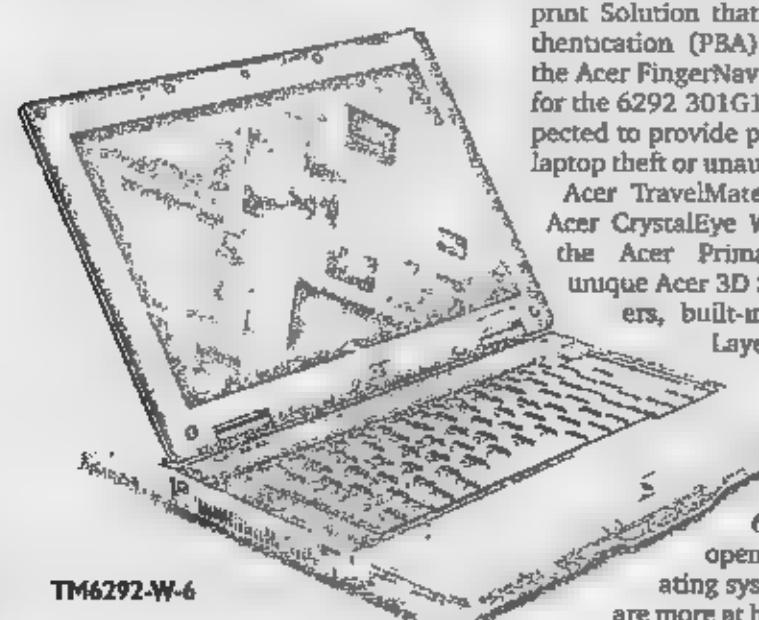
TRAVELING IN STYLE, ESPECIALLY TH your PC, is a must in these high-tech times.

And the best possible travel companion one can have is an Acer TravelMate notebook, recently introduced by Acer Philippines Inc. for the so-called "telecommuters."

The Acer TravelMate laptop series feature top-of-the-line TravelMate 6292-301G16 and the 6291-101G16 carry 160GB SATA hard drives, while the 6291-100512 has a 120GB SATA hard drive. They all have disc anti-shock protection capability, guaranteeing a hardworking and durable hard drive for storing office and personal files.

The new Acer laptops display sleek, subdued yet strong and masculine appeal, perfect for the cyber road warrior executive with its magnesium alloy structure that provides stability and protection. The units have embedded security protection features like the Acer Bio-Protection Fingerprint Solution that features Pre-Boot Authentication (PBA) Computer Protection, the Acer FingerNav and Acer FingerLaunch for the 6292 301G16 model, which are expected to provide peace of mind in case of laptop theft or unauthorized use.

Acer TravelMate models have built-in Acer CrystalEye Web cams that support the Acer Primalite technology, the unique Acer 3D Surround Sound speakers, built-in Super Multi Double Layer optical drives, and the exciting Windows Vista Home Premium operating system. TravelMate 6291-100512 has the open-standard Linux operating system for executives who are more at home with this system.



TM6292-W6

memory and 350MB shared memory) for sharper video clips and photo images on a 12.1-inch WXGA CrystalBrite TFT LCD screen—best for office presentations and online games.

Acer TravelMate 6292-301G16 and the 6291-101G16 carry 160GB SATA hard drives, while the 6291-100512 has a 120GB SATA hard drive. They all have disc anti-shock protection capability, guaranteeing a hardworking and durable hard drive for storing office and personal files.

The new Acer laptops display sleek, subdued yet strong and masculine appeal, perfect for the cyber road warrior executive with its magnesium alloy structure that provides stability and protection. The units have embedded security protection features like the Acer Bio-Protection Fingerprint Solution that features Pre-Boot Authentication (PBA) Computer Protection, the Acer FingerNav and Acer FingerLaunch for the 6292 301G16 model, which are expected to provide peace of mind in case of laptop theft or unauthorized use.

Acer TravelMate models have built-in Acer CrystalEye Web cams that support the Acer Primalite technology, the unique Acer 3D Surround Sound speakers, built-in Super Multi Double Layer optical drives, and the exciting Windows Vista Home Premium operating system. TravelMate 6291-100512 has the open-standard Linux operating system for executives who are more at home with this system.

one-touch access to applications like menu, games and multimedia, which is just nifty.

At the back is a 3.2-megapixel camera with auto focus and flash, and there's a secondary video camera up front for video calling.

There's also a multimedia player and FM radio. The 160MB of internal memory can be expanded by using a Memory Stick Micro card.

For connectivity, this tri-band device supports 802.11b and 802.11g WiFi, and of course, Bluetooth. But just like the rest of the P series, the P1i doesn't support HSDPA.

The P1i is also a wee bit lighter than the P990, weighing in at 124 grams in contrast to its predecessor's 150g.

Functionally, the P1i runs the usual set of P990 applications, including personal information management software and Web browser.

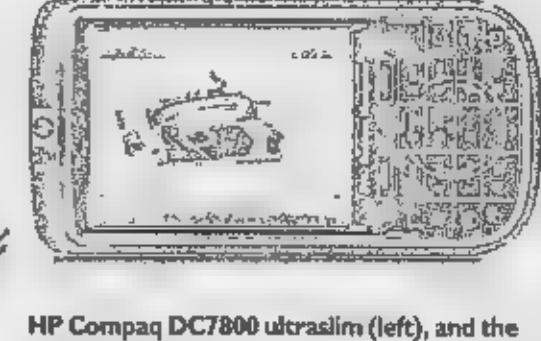
As with all handsets, using Bluetooth and WiFi will eat into the battery life significantly, although hopefully not as quickly as it did on the P990.

All in all, the P1i makes good use of its rich heritage following the P990 and M600.



THE P1i screen is easier on the eyes.

## Gadgets Star in digital banquet



HP Compaq DC7800 ultrathin (left), and the HP iPAQ 612 (top)

By Raquel P. Gomez

THE NEXT GENERATION OF gadgets and computing devices that will expand and further consume our wired, wireless and virtual world were presented in a "digital products banquet" prepared by HP for the Asia Pacific press event held at Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam.

The global IT company known for printers, desktops, notebooks, servers and handheld devices unveiled the latest products and solutions "tailored for the small and medium businesses" across the region.

Techies and gadget aficionados had their first glimpse of PCs specially designed for the tough Asian environment, printers that don't engage

in long start-up but print right away, notebooks that have indestructible solid state drives, PDA phones and handheld devices that have naviga-

tion or GPS features, and affordable power-efficient work stations for heavy graphics users.

"HP is announcing the latest suite of products for SMBs (small and medium businesses) in Asia Pacific to demonstrate how, in a rapidly growing market, we can help them derive the most value from their IT investments, accelerate business performance and reach new business frontiers," said Adrián Koch, senior vice president personal systems group, HP Asia Pacific and Japan.

With the aim of helping enterprises in Asia Pacific to improve productivity and lower costs of doing business, HP introduced a range of desktop products that include the HP Compaq dc7800 Ultra-slim desktop PC, which features a "sleek, zero-footprint design," or a design that allows for the small lightweight PC box to be concealed behind the LCD monitor.

With starting prices below \$800, HP's xw4550 workstation features energy-efficient AMD Opteron processors (Intel Core Duo processor counterpart) with 2D and 3D graphics technologies that makes it capable of driving multiple high-

resolution graphics displays on several LCD monitors.

The HP xw4600, on the other hand, either comes packed with Intel Pentium Dual Core, Intel Core 2 Duo, or Intel Core 2 Extreme dual-and-quad core processors along with Intel X38 Express Chipset, a memory controller hub architecture that optimizes memory and graphics. Installed video accelerators, like NVIDIA, PCIe X16, or ATI graphics support high performance 3D graphic displays. For connectivity to other devices, the workstation also features 12 USB ports and 6 SATA interfaces.

HP workstations all possess a "tool-less" chassis design, where internal components of the PC can be accessed easily for servicing without having to "unscrew" them out.

Koch said the company also came out with products specially designed for particular Asian markets, like PCs that can withstand the tough transportation environment in India and entry level PCs for schools in China.

HP re-enters the tough market of handhelds in Asia with the introduction of five new "reinvigorated" iPAQ devices—a pair of 3G converged PDA mobile phones, pen-based PDAs, as well as a personal navigation device.

Positioned as a necessary business communications tool for professionals, the new iPAQs run on Windows Mobile 6 packed with all the office software essentials.

It has a Wi-Fi feature, as well as GPS navigation and HP Enterprise Mobility Suite (EMS).

The EMS allows for easy setup and diagnosis. It has a software update, locking and content wipe out features that may be done outright on the device or through a website via text messaging. So if you lose the device, you can actually make it "un-useable" for the "new" owner.

The 3G-enabled HP iPAQ 912 Business Messenger with full QWERTY thumb keyboard, and HP

iPAQ 612 Business Navigator boast of 3-megapixel cameras and bright touch screens.

Offering mobile e-mail, voice and GPS navigation, both PDA handhelds allow users to conduct calls and access the Internet in places around the world via the 3G HSDPA and Quad-band (GSM/GPRS/EDGE) technologies. The handhelds' integrated Wi-Fi not only allows for hot spot connectivity for surfing the Web, but also VoIP for Internet calls.

Featuring a high-definition 3D navigation system, the HP iPAQ 312 Travel Companion is a useful device that guides and entertains a user literally out of the box, while helping him or her stay organized at the same time. It can run Google maps and helps users find the exact address, URL and phone number of a location.

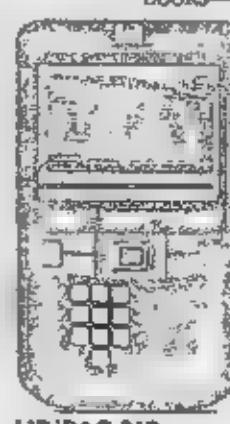
Traveling professionals will also appreciate the long battery life and turn-by-turn navigation via the Assisted GPS feature of the new iPAQs. Also, the voice commander feature called the Voice Reply allows for hands and eyes-free reading and response to e-mails.

This unprecedented expansion of iPAQ products marks a new chapter for HP and demonstrates HP's dedication to the mobile space," says Dave Rothschild, Handheld Global Business Unit, Personal Systems Group, HP. "Today's broad range of iPAQs suit the lifestyles of the mobile professional, student and adventure junkie to business users."

HP also introduced three new Intel Core Duo business notebooks—HP Compaq 2710p, HP Compaq 2510p and HP Compaq 6910p—with tag prices ranging from \$649 to \$699. All three feature 64-gigabyte flash-based solid state drives.

This is the first time the company commercially rolled out notebooks with solid state drives. Solid state drives are proven to be shock-resistant, making notebooks more reliable, power efficient, and perform better.

With a renewed focus on Asia Pacific, particularly the growing businesses of the region, HP is intent on delivering, simplifying and adapting its portfolio of products for the Asian consumers and emerging businesses, according to Koch.



HP iPAQ 912

## EQUIP YOUR BUSINESS FOR SUCCESS WITH MICROSOFT DYNAMICS NAV



Microsoft Dynamics NAV is an integrated business management solution for small to mid-sized companies. It can be tailored to meet your exact needs from application areas for financial management, manufacturing, distribution, relationship management, service management, e-commerce and analytics. This means that you can accomplish more everyday because Microsoft Dynamics NAV can be adapted to the way your business works.

Microsoft Dynamics NAV lets you connect information from every corner of your business and offers a broad variety of industry-specific solutions. It is software that allows you to grow at your own pace, build on your own strengths and get the most of your time and resources. Flexible and easy-to-use, you can streamline your business and increase productivity in a fast and efficient manner with Microsoft Dynamics NAV.

To know more about Microsoft Dynamics NAV, you may visit [www.microsoft.com/dynamics](http://www.microsoft.com/dynamics), or call ABM at (632) 810-8115 loc. 232 to schedule a meeting or product demonstration.

## SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS FOR GREAT COMPANIES.

## NOT JUST GREAT BIG COMPANIES.

MORE THAN 65% OF SAP CUSTOMERS ARE SMALL OR MIDSIZE COMPANIES

You don't have to be a big company to face big challenges. Or to have big expectations. That's why thousands of small and midsize companies around the world maximize their advantage with flexible, affordable and proven software from SAP. Find out how SAP, together with our network of qualified channel partners, can be a good fit for your business – whatever its size.



Outgrowing your current accounting software?

### Sage Software's business management solution is the ANSWER!

Sage PFW offers a comprehensive suite of multi-currency, multi-lingual applications, as well as pre-configured solutions for automating manufacturing & distribution operations that is highly customizable to meet your complex and unique needs.

Sage MAS 500 provides real-time visibility and automation across your enterprise - from manufacturing and distribution to accounting and finance. You'll solve problems before they occur, find cost-saving opportunities and make more strategic business decisions.

Call ABM Computech, an authorized Sage Software business partner to schedule a free consultation.

SAGE PFW SAGE MAS 500

sage  
software

Authorized Partner

ABM  
COMPUTECH ENTERPRISES INC

25/F Pacific Star Building  
Sen. Gil Puyat cor. Makati Ave.,  
Makati City 1225 Philippines  
Tel. no.: (632) 810-8115  
[www.abm-computech.com](http://www.abm-computech.com)

FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT GLOBAL SOFTWARE

**ABM**  
COMPUTECH ENTERPRISES INC

### Migrate to Sage ACCPAC solution to work smarter and faster!

Enjoy **special discount** from full product price of **Sage ACCPAC ERP 5.4.** and get additional freebies on top of it!!!

Sage Accpac 100 - SBE	Sage Accpac 200 - CE	Sage Accpac 500 - EE
Get a free printer for purchase of ACCPAC 100 SBE with 3-5 user /lanpak	Get a special discount for purchase of ACCPAC 200 CE with 5 user /lanpak and get additional laptop for free.	Get a special discount for purchase of ACCPAC 500 EE with 10-user /lanpak and get additional server for free.

Hurry! Limited offer until December 15, 2007 only.

For inquiries, please call Karen Tan at 810-8115 loc. 233, or email [kbt@abm-computech.com](mailto:kbt@abm-computech.com).

**sage**  
software  
Authorized Partner

# People, Events & Products

## Philconstruct '07: The world's best under one roof

**PHILCONSTRUCT 2007**, THE 17TH Philippine International Construction Equipment & Building Materials Exhibition & Technology Forum incorporating Modern Home Expo '07, 4th International Interiors, Furnishing & Furniture, Lighting, Home Entertainment & Total Lifestyle Exhibition, is set to be staged this Nov. 15 to 18 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila.

With the show's track record and consistent positive feedback from exhibitors about the performance of the expo in expanding their business network and generating volume business for their construction and building products and services, this year's event is expected to attract over 500 exhibitors from around the world and is estimated to have total displays of 700 booths. It also expects to host over 50,000 trade buyers from all over the country and around the region in four days, making it the biggest and most important event in the country.

The Philippine Constructors Association (PCA), representing the biggest and most influential construction companies that serve as agents of change for the improvement of standards and practices in the industry, is behind Philconstruct 2007. With the association's members taking the lead in taking on major undertakings on various infrastructure projects of the government as well as private developments and international projects, taken as a whole, the group has been reputed to be the biggest buyers and specifiers of building and construction materials in the country and is able to provide volume business to suppliers and manufacturers.

With the increasing number of vital private and government projects, infrastructure developments, housing, influx of foreign remittance and trade and commercial developments in the pipeline, the Philippine Constructors Association's is even more driven to ensure that the foundation for

steady supply of quality and cost efficient materials remains available and technologically advanced for the local industry to remain globally competitive. This is the driving force behind the annual staging of Philconstruct, which was created to be a neutral business forum for the entire industry.

### Showcase of technology

"As the event chair, my committee members and I are committed to put together the best possible showcase of technology, products and services available in the world market for our local industry players. Being in the industry for over several decades now, I am aware of the needs and directions that our local construction industry must undertake to remain competitive. In the upcoming Philconstruct 2007, many of these issues will surely be addressed," said Eric Cruz, event chair and PCA vice president.

This year, aside from the much talked about Estilo de Vida Interior Design competition (where junior year students of interior design schools compete for the top three interior designs of a 48 sqm condominium unit and which will be built up and showcased at Philconstruct) and is co-organized by the Philippine Institute for Interior Design (PIID), a special Mining Pavilion titled Mining Philippines 2007 is going to be held coinciding with the event. The PCA and the Philippine Mine Safety and Environment Association (PMSEA) has tied up to put together various local and international suppliers that will be able to cater to both the construction and mining industry which today is another billion-dollar industry. This move has further strengthened and emphasized that working hand in hand with other industries opens up more business opportunities for everyone and expands one's network.

Philconstruct can be proud that it is the only show that attracts key decision makers in every link of the buying chain. This includes 2,400-plus architects and designers, over 3,700 contractors and sub-contractors, including other primary and secondary contractors/dealers, more than 2,380 engineers, architectural and design/build firms, over 910 facility managers including whole-



**VILLAR OPENS PHILCONSTRUCT**

Upon his arrival, Senate President Manny Villar was welcomed by Global-Link MP managing director Patrick Lawrence Tan, PCA presi-

dent Jorge Consunji and PCA vice-president John Baltista. Up to 2,854 delegates attended the opening ceremony at World Trade Center.

allinkph.com.

"We provide the business platform by using Philconstruct as the annual event for industry leaders to explore business opportunities, generate new sales leads, improving product capabilities, establish partnerships and other marketing opportunities. This is the key to the success of this project and we intend to make it even bigger and better in the coming years," says Jorge Consunji, president, PCA.

Some of the major show sponsors and participants are: Artes Myer, Bisazza, Boysen, Carlson Trading, Cemex, Cobanukat Hardware, Davies Paints, Flowercrete, Ford Philippines, Holcim Philippines, Industrial Surface Infratek, Lafarge, JAC, Lexton Commercial, Manila Sources, Maritiwa, Maxima/Komatsu, Mega Systems, Monark Equipment, Multistig, Norde International, Panasonic, Pars Builders, Power Systems, Puyat Steel, Robert Bosch, and Wilcon Builders.

## More of Godiva's breakthrough products

WHEN GODIVA FIRST LAUNCHED its pioneering skin whitening line 11 years ago, it was met with tremendous response from the market. As the company expanded its reach with more outlets and new innovative product lines, more and more customers swore by the brand. And not long enough, it captured the trust and loyalty of its discriminating clientele here and abroad.

And now, Godiva introduces its latest additions to its roster of highly trusted products—the Godiva LiccoWhite Gentle Facial Wash and the Godiva Vitamin C Facial Scrub.

The Godiva Facial Wash is the first pH balanced, soap-free facial wash with licorice whitening ingredient and green tea extract. It is so gentle on the skin that one will feel the difference immediately—smooth, moisturized and refreshingly clean skin. With Godiva's signature ingredient—Licorice as a major skin whitening component, you get brighter skin in

as early as seven days. The Green Tea Extracts component also aid in delaying skin aging; thus, giving you a more youthful glowing skin. This product is certainly a perfect first step in your skin care regimen.

More than just eliminating the dead skin cells of your skin, The Godiva Vitamin C Facial Scrub, on the other hand, keeps your skin healthy with the added Vitamin C. It's a natural facial scrub with orange peel granules bursting with Vitamin C to brighten and refine your skin. As a powerful antioxidant, Vitamin C protects your skin from free radicals and cellular damage. Orange peel gently exfoliates and unclogs pores, leaving your skin clean, clear, and moisturized.

"As a true innovator, Godiva is always at the forefront of developing new and exciting products that will serve the specific skin care needs of our discerning market", Fred Reyes, president and owner of Godiva Inc said.



Godiva Natural Skin Care products are available at all Mercury Drugstore self-service outlets and at Watsons Beauty in SM malls. To find out more about the products, log on to www.godivaskincare.com.

## Boning up on bone health and diabetes

New research shows a link between bones, fat cells and diabetes.

"Bones apparently produce a hormone that helps regulate blood sugar and body fat. This hormone is called osteocalcin," writes DiabetEASE editor-in-chief Dr. Joy Fontanilla.

Researchers found that adequate levels of osteocalcin may: 1) reduce insulin resistance (the inability of cells to respond to insulin action); 2) increase insulin production; 3) promote growth of the cells that make insulin—the pancreatic beta cells; and 4) prevent obesity. Likewise, people with type 2 diabetes were found to have low osteocalcin levels.

Diabetes also increases risk for various bone and joint problems. "These may be attributed to nerve damage, blood flow disorders, atrophy or muscle shrinkage, kidney dysfunction, inflammation, and obesity," according to Fontanilla.

Moreover, diabetes increases the risk for fractures. People with type 1 diabetes tend to have lower bone mass. Those with type 2 diabetes tend to have higher bone mass but

poorer bone quality and higher risk of falls and injury.

Taking on a whole new, more portable look on its special second anniversary issue, DiabetEASE magazine brings a wider perspective to bone health. The current issue gives tips on how to strengthen bones and prevent early bone loss.

It also features articles on the causes and prevention of low back pain, dealing with osteoarthritis and must-know facts about calcium and

vitamin D.

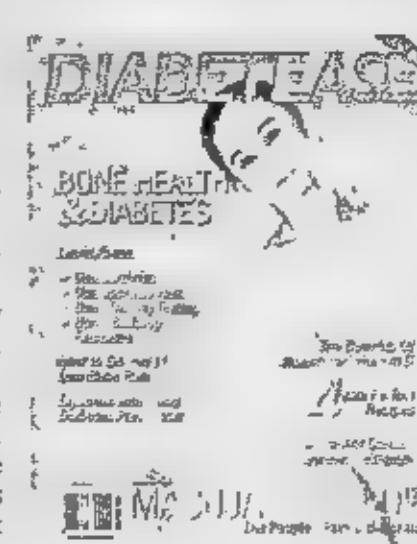
To help keep bones in top shape, the October-November issue also highlights bone strengthening exercises, and the importance of bone density testing.

For folks with diabetes on the look-out for great healthy food, the magazine features four superb pasta recipes, as well as information about the glycemic index and how it can be used to create the right meal plan.

On the cover is Lisa Macuja-Elizalde, the Philippines' prima ballerina, who shares about how crucial peak bone health is in her career and how ballet helps bust stress away.

DiabetEASE is filled with the latest news and trends about diabetes and diabetes care. DiabetEASE is a bi-monthly glossy magazine for people with diabetes, their families, healthcare givers and the public in general.

DiabetEASE magazine is available in all National Bookstores nationwide and selected magazine outlets. For subscription inquiries, call 892-0723 to 24 or 813-5433.



## 43rd Anvil Awards is on

THE 43RD ANVIL AWARDS, SPONSORED annually by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), has been officially launched, kicking off the search for the outstanding PR programs for 2006-2007. The Anvil, the most highly regarded and widely participated in awards event in public relations in the country, is divided into two categories: PR programs and PR Tools, further

divided into various sub-categories, capped by the Grand Anvil Awards. Anvil Awards contenders have until Oct. 31 to submit their entries to the Anvil Awards Committee at No 20-B, San Mateo Street, Barrio Kapitolyo, Pasig City. The Anvil Awards rules may be downloaded from PRSP website www.prsp.org.ph or obtained from the Secretariat at 638-0010 or 638-0012.

<b>Republique of the Philippines Province of Negros Oriental CITY OF BAYANAN SPECIALIZED BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE www.bayanann.gov.ph</b>																									
<b>INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID</b>																									
<p>The City Government of Bayawan, through its Specialized Bids and Awards Committee invites prospective suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Bid Number</th> <th>Name of Project</th> <th>Approved Budget for the Contract</th> <th>Source of Fund</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>B7-1888</td> <td>Airconditioning System (Integrated Bus Terminal [Phase III])</td> <td>P2,157,666.72</td> <td>General Fund</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B7-1889</td> <td>Materials for the completion of Integrated Bus Terminal</td> <td>P2,837.10.00</td> <td>General Fund</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Project Location/Delivery Area Contract Duration</p> <p>The complete schedules of bidding activities are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACTIVITY</th> <th>DATE/TIME</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Advertisement/Posting of the Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid</td> <td>October 26, 2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Submission of Bid Documents</td> <td>October 28, 2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deadline for the Submission &amp; Opening of Eligibility Requirements (for Non-Accredited Suppliers) &amp; LOI for Accredited Suppliers (Specialized BAC Office)</td> <td>November 6, 2007 (10:00 a.m.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deadline/Opening of Bids (Specialized BAC Office)</td> <td>November 19, 2007 (10:00 a.m.)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Complete sets of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Documents will be available for inspection at the Specialized BAC Office, 2nd Floor, City Hall Bldg., Bayawan City [Tel. No. (035) 531-0600] upon payment of the prescribed non-refundable fee.</p> <p>Prospective Bidders shall duly accomplish eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals and submit the same in 2 (two) separate sealed envelopes on or before the date indicated above.</p> <p>The Specialized Bids and Awards Committee reserves the right to accept or reject all bids or part thereof, to waive formally herein or to accept such bids considered most advantageous to the City Government of Bayawan.</p> <p>(Sgd.) PAUCHO F. VILLASIS Chairman, Specialized Bids &amp; Awards Committee</p> <p>(PDI - Oct. 23, 2007)</p>				Bid Number	Name of Project	Approved Budget for the Contract	Source of Fund	B7-1888	Airconditioning System (Integrated Bus Terminal [Phase III])	P2,157,666.72	General Fund	B7-1889	Materials for the completion of Integrated Bus Terminal	P2,837.10.00	General Fund	ACTIVITY	DATE/TIME	Advertisement/Posting of the Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid	October 26, 2007	Submission of Bid Documents	October 28, 2007	Deadline for the Submission & Opening of Eligibility Requirements (for Non-Accredited Suppliers) & LOI for Accredited Suppliers (Specialized BAC Office)	November 6, 2007 (10:00 a.m.)	Deadline/Opening of Bids (Specialized BAC Office)	November 19, 2007 (10:00 a.m.)
Bid Number	Name of Project	Approved Budget for the Contract	Source of Fund																						
B7-1888	Airconditioning System (Integrated Bus Terminal [Phase III])	P2,157,666.72	General Fund																						
B7-1889	Materials for the completion of Integrated Bus Terminal	P2,837.10.00	General Fund																						
ACTIVITY	DATE/TIME																								
Advertisement/Posting of the Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid	October 26, 2007																								
Submission of Bid Documents	October 28, 2007																								
Deadline for the Submission & Opening of Eligibility Requirements (for Non-Accredited Suppliers) & LOI for Accredited Suppliers (Specialized BAC Office)	November 6, 2007 (10:00 a.m.)																								
Deadline/Opening of Bids (Specialized BAC Office)	November 19, 2007 (10:00 a.m.)																								



**Development Bank of the Philippines**  
Marbel Branch  
Alunan Avenue, Koronadal City

## NOTICE TO ALL ELIGIBLE BIDDERS

Please be informed that the deadline for the submission of Bids for the Construction of New DBP Marbel Branch Building is moved from October 29, 2007 at 10:00 A.M. to November 5, 2007 at 10:00 A.M. Eligible Bidders must submit their Bids at DBP Marbel Branch, Alunan Avenue, General Santos City on or before 10:00 a.m. of November 5, 2007. Bid opening shall be at 2:00 p.m. of November 5, 2007 at DBP, Marbel Branch, Alunan Avenue, Koronadal City.

(Sgd.) **ELVIE N. EULLARAN-ALBANO**  
BAC Chairman

(PDI - October 22 & 29, 2007)

<b>R E W A R D</b>																																																																																																	
<b>NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC</b>																																																																																																	
<p>Notice is given to the public that Writs of Execution have been issued against the following persons who are all previous tenants of GREENMILLS SHOPPESVILLE ARCADE, San Juan City by the Metropolitan Trial Court Branch 57, San Juan, Metro Manila.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of Defendant</th> <th>Civil Case No.</th> <th>Last Known Address</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ABELLEIRA, Josephine J</td> <td>9124</td> <td>11 Guyabano St., Proj. 2, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>APOLONIO Rosario</td> <td>9010</td> <td>Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Paridental, Bulacan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BALTAZAR, Mt. Luz</td> <td>9150</td> <td>51 Umbe St. Roxas District, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BARIN Magnolia</td> <td>9164</td> <td>47 Dumalay St., Sta. Monica, Novaliches, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BLANCO, Jasmin F.</td> <td>9155</td> <td>Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BLANCO Russel</td> <td>9148</td> <td>Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CASTANEDA, Ma. Carla V.</td> <td>9033</td> <td>8483 Sampaloc St., San Antonio Village, Makati City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CATALAN, Maylorico P.</td> <td>9236</td> <td>3 Pag-as St., San Jose, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DESCALLAR Michelle</td> <td>9171</td> <td>Batanguero Vill., Matina Aplaya, Davao City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DONA, Salurnino Jr. C</td> <td>9163</td> <td>1903 Tramo St., Pasay City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAUSTINO, Lina V</td> <td>9170</td> <td>Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HERNANDEZ, Mary Ann F</td> <td>9038</td> <td>805 Rosta St., Sta. Nino, Marikina City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JAUROIGUE, Ma. Teresa D.</td> <td>9005</td> <td>unit 229 Kalmioville, Kalmio St. Valle Verde 2, Pasig City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LOPEZ, Aileen A.</td> <td>9009</td> <td>Manila Steam Laundry, 223 Esplanade St., Sampaloc, Manila</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LUCIANO Maura</td> <td>9153</td> <td>48 Samrat Ave. cor Albano St., South Triangle, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MACEDA, Anna Gisel R.</td> <td>9008</td> <td>56 Highland Drive, Blue Ridge, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MANGUBAT, Leopoldo</td> <td>9035</td> <td>372 Columbia St., East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MARALIT Ariet P</td> <td>9014</td> <td>3 Don Pepe St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MARTINEZ Michael P</td> <td>9011</td> <td>19 Mt. Clements St., Filinvest, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MENESSES Rolando F</td> <td>9072</td> <td>3-C, Palma St., Xavierville Subd., Ph. 1, Loyola Heights, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NOVELO, Filipina</td> <td>9073</td> <td>203-D, L&amp;F Apt., Erwin Garcia St., Cubao, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONG Eduardo C</td> <td>9025</td> <td>3695 Araro St., Paanan, Makati City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAC OLES Mariano Jr</td> <td>9031</td> <td>26-E Eisenhower St., North Greenhills, San Juan City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAMINTUAN, Ma. Belinda M.</td> <td>9018</td> <td>54 Ubay St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RECTO, Rorieta</td> <td>9039</td> <td>Javilla Townhouse, 50 Felix Manalo St., QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REYES, Ma. Dansel K.</td> <td>9125</td> <td>53A Laura St., Plainview, Mandaluyong City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REYES, Floren</td> <td>9039</td> <td>613A Mabini St., Manggahan, Pasig City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ROJAS Lorenzo S.</td> <td>9173</td> <td>95 Karnias Road, QC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SAN AGUSTIN, Ma. Lysandra T</td> <td>9172</td> <td>36 Camila St., Valle Verde II, Pasig City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TIONGSON John Rodnick</td> <td>9003</td> <td>36 Camila St., Valle Verde II, Pasig City</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOLENTINO, Melinda S.</td> <td>9003</td> <td>17 Dampol St., Damas Village, QC</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above defendants are advised to call our lawyers, DY &amp; ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM, at telephone nos. 531-1249 &amp; 535-4931 to discuss their compliance with the Writs.</p> <p>The public is likewise requested to convey any information on the present whereabouts and assets of the above-named defendants to our lawyers. A CASH REWARD will be given to any person who can provide information leading to the successful collection of the amount that the above defendants are adjudged to pay. All information given shall be treated with strict confidence.</p> <p>ALLEGRO RESOURCES CORPORATION 3rd Level, Shoppeville Arcade, Greenhills San Juan, Metro Manila</p>		Name of Defendant	Civil Case No.	Last Known Address	ABELLEIRA, Josephine J	9124	11 Guyabano St., Proj. 2, QC	APOLONIO Rosario	9010	Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Paridental, Bulacan	BALTAZAR, Mt. Luz	9150	51 Umbe St. Roxas District, QC	BARIN Magnolia	9164	47 Dumalay St., Sta. Monica, Novaliches, QC	BLANCO, Jasmin F.	9155	Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC	BLANCO Russel	9148	Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC	CASTANEDA, Ma. Carla V.	9033	8483 Sampaloc St., San Antonio Village, Makati City	CATALAN, Maylorico P.	9236	3 Pag-as St., San Jose, QC	DESCALLAR Michelle	9171	Batanguero Vill., Matina Aplaya, Davao City	DONA, Salurnino Jr. C	9163	1903 Tramo St., Pasay City	FAUSTINO, Lina V	9170	Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC	HERNANDEZ, Mary Ann F	9038	805 Rosta St., Sta. Nino, Marikina City	JAUROIGUE, Ma. Teresa D.	9005	unit 229 Kalmioville, Kalmio St. Valle Verde 2, Pasig City	LOPEZ, Aileen A.	9009	Manila Steam Laundry, 223 Esplanade St., Sampaloc, Manila	LUCIANO Maura	9153	48 Samrat Ave. cor Albano St., South Triangle, QC	MACEDA, Anna Gisel R.	9008	56 Highland Drive, Blue Ridge, QC	MANGUBAT, Leopoldo	9035	372 Columbia St., East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City	MARALIT Ariet P	9014	3 Don Pepe St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC	MARTINEZ Michael P	9011	19 Mt. Clements St., Filinvest, QC	MENESSES Rolando F	9072	3-C, Palma St., Xavierville Subd., Ph. 1, Loyola Heights, QC	NOVELO, Filipina	9073	203-D, L&F Apt., Erwin Garcia St., Cubao, QC	ONG Eduardo C	9025	3695 Araro St., Paanan, Makati City	PAC OLES Mariano Jr	9031	26-E Eisenhower St., North Greenhills, San Juan City	PAMINTUAN, Ma. Belinda M.	9018	54 Ubay St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC	RECTO, Rorieta	9039	Javilla Townhouse, 50 Felix Manalo St., QC	REYES, Ma. Dansel K.	9125	53A Laura St., Plainview, Mandaluyong City	REYES, Floren	9039	613A Mabini St., Manggahan, Pasig City	ROJAS Lorenzo S.	9173	95 Karnias Road, QC	SAN AGUSTIN, Ma. Lysandra T	9172	36 Camila St., Valle Verde II, Pasig City	TIONGSON John Rodnick	9003	36 Camila St., Valle Verde II, Pasig City	TOLENTINO, Melinda S.	9003	17 Dampol St., Damas Village, QC
Name of Defendant	Civil Case No.	Last Known Address																																																																																															
ABELLEIRA, Josephine J	9124	11 Guyabano St., Proj. 2, QC																																																																																															
APOLONIO Rosario	9010	Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Paridental, Bulacan																																																																																															
BALTAZAR, Mt. Luz	9150	51 Umbe St. Roxas District, QC																																																																																															
BARIN Magnolia	9164	47 Dumalay St., Sta. Monica, Novaliches, QC																																																																																															
BLANCO, Jasmin F.	9155	Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC																																																																																															
BLANCO Russel	9148	Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC																																																																																															
CASTANEDA, Ma. Carla V.	9033	8483 Sampaloc St., San Antonio Village, Makati City																																																																																															
CATALAN, Maylorico P.	9236	3 Pag-as St., San Jose, QC																																																																																															
DESCALLAR Michelle	9171	Batanguero Vill., Matina Aplaya, Davao City																																																																																															
DONA, Salurnino Jr. C	9163	1903 Tramo St., Pasay City																																																																																															
FAUSTINO, Lina V	9170	Unit 0, Hernady Townhomes, New Manila, QC																																																																																															
HERNANDEZ, Mary Ann F	9038	805 Rosta St., Sta. Nino, Marikina City																																																																																															
JAUROIGUE, Ma. Teresa D.	9005	unit 229 Kalmioville, Kalmio St. Valle Verde 2, Pasig City																																																																																															
LOPEZ, Aileen A.	9009	Manila Steam Laundry, 223 Esplanade St., Sampaloc, Manila																																																																																															
LUCIANO Maura	9153	48 Samrat Ave. cor Albano St., South Triangle, QC																																																																																															
MACEDA, Anna Gisel R.	9008	56 Highland Drive, Blue Ridge, QC																																																																																															
MANGUBAT, Leopoldo	9035	372 Columbia St., East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City																																																																																															
MARALIT Ariet P	9014	3 Don Pepe St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC																																																																																															
MARTINEZ Michael P	9011	19 Mt. Clements St., Filinvest, QC																																																																																															
MENESSES Rolando F	9072	3-C, Palma St., Xavierville Subd., Ph. 1, Loyola Heights, QC																																																																																															
NOVELO, Filipina	9073	203-D, L&F Apt., Erwin Garcia St., Cubao, QC																																																																																															
ONG Eduardo C	9025	3695 Araro St., Paanan, Makati City																																																																																															
PAC OLES Mariano Jr	9031	26-E Eisenhower St., North Greenhills, San Juan City																																																																																															
PAMINTUAN, Ma. Belinda M.	9018	54 Ubay St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC																																																																																															
RECTO, Rorieta	9039	Javilla Townhouse, 50 Felix Manalo St., QC																																																																																															
REYES, Ma. Dansel K.	9125	53A Laura St., Plainview, Mandaluyong City																																																																																															
REYES, Floren	9039	613A Mabini St., Manggahan, Pasig City																																																																																															
ROJAS Lorenzo S.	9173	95 Karnias Road, QC																																																																																															
SAN AGUSTIN, Ma. Lysandra T	9172	36 Camila St., Valle Verde II, Pasig City																																																																																															
TIONGSON John Rodnick	9003	36 Camila St., Valle Verde II, Pasig City																																																																																															
TOLENTINO, Melinda S.	9003	17 Dampol St., Damas Village, QC																																																																																															

(PDI - Oct. 22, 2007)

## CLASSIFIEDS



City Government of Zamboanga  
BIOS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE  
City Hall, Zamboanga City

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The CITY GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBOANGA invites PhilGEPS registered suppliers/manufacturers/contractors to apply for the following items:

Name of Project	Approved Budget for the Contract	Detail Time	Price of Bid Documents	
	Pre-Bid Conference	Deadline Opening of Bids	(non-refundable)	
1. Construction of Two (2) Storey Ten (10) Classroom Building at Don Pablo Lorenzo Memorial High School, Zamboanga City.	P7,840,080.84	Nov. 21, 2007 10:00 AM	Dec. 3, 2007 10:00 AM	P1,000.00

The Bid documents shall be available at the City Mayor's Office, Procurement, Acquisition and Awards Division, City Hall, Zamboanga City starting November 7-28, 2007 upon payment of non-refundable fee indicated above.

The Pre-Bid conference shall be held at City Engineer's Office, Conference Hall, City Hall, Zamboanga City.

The Bidder shall drop and enclose the original of the Technical Proposal in one sealed envelope, whereas, the original of the Financial Proposal shall be enclosed in another sealed envelope. Both envelopes shall then be placed in another single envelope. In the bid box located at the aforementioned address.

For more information, please call the Procurement, Acquisition and Awards Division at telephone no. (062) 992-7763.

The CITY GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBOANGA reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to amend the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Bldg.) DR. MARIO D. ARRIOLA  
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Oct. 29, 2007)

IT DRIVEN  
KNAPPA!

10 HOURS

P1,800

WITH DRIVER

89213437178

BUYING

PHILIPS Watch Philippon A.P.  
Prestige Collection

Alloy Drive & Quartz Chrono

09178840404  
7269687

[www.knappa.com.ph](http://www.knappa.com.ph)

BUY • SELL • PAWN

ROLEX  
& other SWISS WATCHES

JEWELRY  
DIAMONDS

BEST PRICE

SPOT CASH

09178840404  
7269687

[www.knappa.com.ph](http://www.knappa.com.ph)

JOB

Market

Read it every Sunday  
with the Philippine Daily Inquirer

Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON  
Provincial Capitol 8700

AN OPEN INVITATION  
TO ALL SUPPLIERS OF MEDICINES

The Provincial Government of Bukidnon (PGB), through the Bids and Awards Committee, is inviting all suppliers of medicines, to participate in its procurement needs of medicines for its eight (8) Provincial Hospitals and Twenty-Two (22) Provincial Health Stations. The PGB has allotted Eleven Million Four Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand One Pesos and Thirty-Eight Centavos (P11,492,001.38) for the last 2 months of CY 2007 and appropriated One Hundred Million Pesos (P100,000,000) for CY 2008. We assure all those concerned that we, in the province of Bukidnon, fully and strictly adhere to the basic policy of transparency in accordance with the tenets of R.A. 8184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. We also assure everyone that our budget allocation for our medicine requirements is very competitive because our procurement process is "commission-free". We repeat, and we would like to stress that we do not allow, much less, accept, "commission" or "bribe money" from any supplier or contractor, hence there is no reason for all of you to jack up your prices as part of your add-on costs.

We prefer BFAD accredited generic Drugs and Medicines, and we encourage manufacturers, importers and sole distributors who can offer the most advantageous prices to the PGB to participate in our bulk procurement scheme.

So for those interested to join in our procurement needs for medicines, kindly get in touch with our BAC Secretariat Ms. Joe-an P. Bayona at 068-221-2537, 068-221-4620 or call 09173491624

(Sgd.) JOSE MA. R. ZUBIRAS, JR.  
Provincial Governor

JOB  
Market

You can now checkout more jobs  
from JobMarket Libre everyday!

Republic of the Philippines  
MARIKINA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE  
Sta. Elena, Marikina City  
Tel. No. 682-0591 / 933-6790

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Marikina Polytechnic College through its Bids and Awards Committee invites interested bidder to apply for eligibility and to bid for the procurement of Desktop Computers with Printers.

The minimum bid is at Php 400,000.00 for the contract.

BAC ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE
1 Receipt from prospective bidders, Letter of Intent (LOI)	November 05 - November 11, 2007 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
2. Issuance and availability of Bidding Documents.	November 12 - November 18, 2007 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
3. Pre-bid Conference	November 19, 2007 9:00 AM
4. Submission and Opening of Bid Documents	December 1, 2007 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

All particular relative to Eligibility screening, pre-bid Conference, evaluation of bid, Post Qualifications and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of RA 8184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

Bid documents will be available to prospective bidders at the BAC Office at the TESDP Building upon payment of non-refundable amount of TWO THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (Pph 2,000.00). In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the official receipt issued by the Cashiers to the BAC Secretariat.

MPC assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bid documents.

MPC reserves the right to accept BIDS that are considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) GUNDAWAY F. LAURO  
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Oct. 29, 2007)

## Equal opportunity to less fortunate students

CHILDREN HAVE DREAMS, TOO, not just of becoming professionals someday, but of leading good lives.

These children's dreams will never be a reality if they are not given the chance to fulfill them. A chance is what they need, and this is what Insular Life's Adopt-A-Scholar program has been giving them for the past five years.

Started in 2003, the program is Insular Life employees' parallel effort to the Insular Life Foundation's educational programs particularly for the Muntinlupa Itas Elementary School (MIES). MIES is the company's adopted school under the Adopt-a-School Program in partnership with the Department of Education.

Insular Life employees—from the rank and file up to the CEO, voluntarily adopted 100 MIES scholars and pledged to support them until they graduate from grade school by providing for their school supplies and bags. To this day, scholars still receive reading books not just to practice their reading skills, but to instill moral lessons in their young hearts.

To date, funds from the program have also contributed to several more books for the school. Complementing the Insular Life Founda-

tion's own book donation, excess funds from employee contribution for the children's school materials were used to purchase additional books for the library. While not every student may be adopted by Insular Life's employees, all of them stand to benefit from these different reading books stationed at the school's second floor library.

Five years since Adopt-A-Scholar started, 53 students have already graduated. While three were disqualified from continuing, 44 scholars are still being supported by the program. One of these scholars is Violeta Tabayag's daughter, Jonnallyn, who is in grade six. Manang Viloy, as she is called at MIES, is the school janitress. She has eight children, and while she earns a little from cleaning the school's premises, she says her husband does not have a regular job.

Insular Life's Adopt-A-Scholar's culmination will happen a year from now. The grade one students five years ago would have started

the last year of their elementary schooling. It will also be the last time the employee-sponsors of Insular Life will provide funds for their school materials and reading books. Just like the ones before them, these children's willingness to achieve their dreams, however difficult they may be, will be seen in the next years after graduation



LIFE FOUNDATION administrator Ana Maria Soriano, and MIES O/C Dr. Diosdado Medina (back row, left, middle and right, respectively)

when they move on to high school and hopefully take college or vocational/technical courses. But for a few years before that happens, they know that what they needed was a chance to equal opportunity in order to fulfill these dreams. And through the Insular Life Adopt-A-Scholar Program, that was what they were given.

Highest  
ginseng  
capsule  
for energy

ENERGIN 300 WAS RECENTLY LAUNCHED IN THE LOCAL MARKET OFFERING THE highest ginseng content in capsule form. Ginseng has been used for thousands of years in traditional Chinese medicine to give sustained physical, mental, and sexual energy. Aside from its high ginseng content, Energin 300 also contains 100 mg of royal jelly, which is well known for its rejuvenating and revitalizing effects on the body. Hence, Energin 300 is said to have the one-two punch which can help knock out many of the common performance problems encountered in daily life. "Prolonged endurance to last long and be in top form is what Energin 300 can offer," says Charles Cultura, product manager of Trianon International, which is the local distributor of Energin 300. The product is manufactured by Now Foods, Inc. It is one of the leading manufacturers of high-quality vitamins and food supplements in the United States.

Cultura says Energin 300 contains 300 mg of ginseng, the highest ginseng content in the Philippine market, and is about two to 10 times higher than the ginseng content of available local brands. Cultura reports that they have conducted pre-launch trials of Energin 300 among office executives, managers and rank-and-file workers, call center workers, taxi drivers, students, and the majority of indicated improvement in their physical and mental performance. Married males also claim they noted improvement in their virility and sexual potency. Ginseng's "anti-fatigue action" is related to its ability to stimulate the central nervous system and release of non-adrenaline energy-enhancing hormones, as described by Mark Mayell in "Off-the-shelf Natural Health". Energin 300 is available in all Mercury Drugstores. For inquiries, call the Trianon hotline at 815-3239 or text 0917-8836184.

## OBITUARIES

"Come to Me, all  
you who are  
weary and  
burdened, and I  
will give you  
rest."  
Matthew 11:28

IN LOVING MEMORY  
ON THE TENTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

ASUNCION "SONING" HOJAS ESCANO  
of Cagayan de Oro City

(DELOVED WIFE OF THE LATE ROQUE "TETE" VANO ESCANO AND  
FOUNDRESS & FIRST CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD RIA HOJAS  
ESCANO FOUNDATION, INC.)

Who died in the grace of our Lord last October 29, 1997  
Holy masses will be offered today, Monday, October 29, 2007  
at the following:

Greenhills Memorial Park, Bulacan	4:00 p.m.
San Vicente Parish, Cagayan	5:00 a.m.
San Isidro Labrador, Guia	5:00 a.m.
Jesus Nazareno Parish, Recto Avenue	5:30 p.m.
Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Camarines Sur	6:00 a.m.
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carmen	6:00 a.m.
St. Augustine Cathedral	5:30 p.m.
San Antonio de Padua, Nazareth	6:00 a.m.
Sto. Niño Parish, Cagayan	8:00 a.m.
Immaculate Conception, Bulacan	8:00 a.m.
Carmelite Monastery, Camarines Sur	8:00 a.m.
Carmelite Monastery, Bulacan	8:00 a.m.

The RIA (ROQUE, ISIDRO & ASUNCION) Hojas Escano Foundation Inc Board of Trustees, Officers and Staff, Grandson FRANZ JOSEF relatives & friends request the pious readers to remember ASUNCION in their prayers.

Remembering Our Beloved...  
**Dra. Engracia V. Lagman**  
(1924 - 1992)

Schedule of Celebration of the Holy Eucharist on her 15th Death Anniversary at the following churches:

OUR LADY OF REMEDIES PARISH Malate Catholic Church, Malate Manila 7:00 PM, 30 October 2007	NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY Santa Domingo Church, Quiapo City 7:15 AM, 30 October 2007
CATHEDRAL SHRINE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD Regalado Avenue, Fairview Park, Quezon City 8:00 AM, 30 October 2007	OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga 8:00 AM, 30 October 2007
CHRIST THE KING PARISH Green Meadows Avenue, Quezon City 6:00 AM, 30 October 2007	PARISH OF THE HEARTS OF JESUS & MARY West Triangle, Quezon City 6:30 AM, 30 October 2007
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila 7:00 AM, 30 October 2007	SAN AGUSTIN PARISH San Agustin, San Fernando, Pampanga 8:30 AM, 30 October 2007
MARY THE QUEEN PARISH West Greenhills, San Juan City 7:00 AM, 30 October 2007	SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH McKinley Road, Fortis Park, Makati City 8:15 AM, 30 October 2007
METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL San Fernando, Pampanga 7:00 AM, 30 October 2007	SANTUARIO DE MARY QUEEN OF PEACE EDSA corner Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City 8:30 AM, 30 October 2007
MINOR BASILICA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Mampli Metropolitan Cathedral, Intramuros, Manila 7:30 AM, 30 October 2007	STA. PERPETUA PARISH D. Tuazon Street, Quezon City 8:00 AM, 30 October 2007
MONASTERIO DE STA. CLARA C.S., Kalayaan Avenue, Quezon City 6:00 AM, 30 October 2007	STA. RITA DE CASIA PARISH Poblacion, Caloocan City 8:30 AM, 30 October 2007
MOUNT CARMEL SHRINE New Manila, Quezon City 7:00 AM, 30 October 2007	STA. RITA DE CASIA PARISH Sierra Madre, Pampanga 8:30 AM, 30 October 2007
NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES Kantipas corner Retiro Streets, Quezon City 7:30 AM, 30 October 2007	

More Classified Ads

ALLEGRO RESOURCES ..... B10  
CITY GOV'T. OF BAYAWAN . B10  
DBP ..... B10

ANNOUNCEMENT  
to our valued advertisers  
PDI Kalaw branch has been transferred to:  
G/F Traveller's Life Bldg.,  
490 T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila  
(In front of National Library)  
To serve your advertising needs, please call  
523-5570 (Trunk Line) loc. 115 or 116  
528-0213 (Direct Line)

ROXAS BOULEVARD

KALAW AVENUE

NATIONAL LIBRARY

LUNETA PARK

TAFT AVENUE

UNITED NATIONS AVENUE

# Join the Elite Circle in Greenbelt, Makati.



## GREENBELT CHANCELLOR

The Art of Living *Extraordinarily* Well

Greenbelt Chancellor puts you literally steps away from a whole lot of important places. From the most prestigious offices to the snazziest shops and restaurants. From the latest entertainment houses to the most modern medical centers and the finest schools.

An incomparable location is just one of the reasons why Greenbelt Chancellor is the first choice of Makati's smart set. For one, its executive studios to three-bedroom suites come pre-furnished with first-rate furniture and home appliances. Then, too, wide windows bring you stunning views of Greenbelt and the city. And you can relax in private at the seventh-level play deck, with its lap pool, fitness center, spa and lush garden.

Best of all, Greenbelt Chancellor gives you more bang for the buck with the friendliest price/payment package in town.

Greenbelt Chancellor: An extraordinarily pampering lifestyle you can call your very own.



Built-in furniture/home appliances include:

- A home entertainment system
- Air-conditioning unit/s
- Modern kitchen and utility appliances
- Furnishings for the living/dining areas and bedrooms

Come to our Open House:

Oct. 31 (Wed.), 9 am to 10 pm

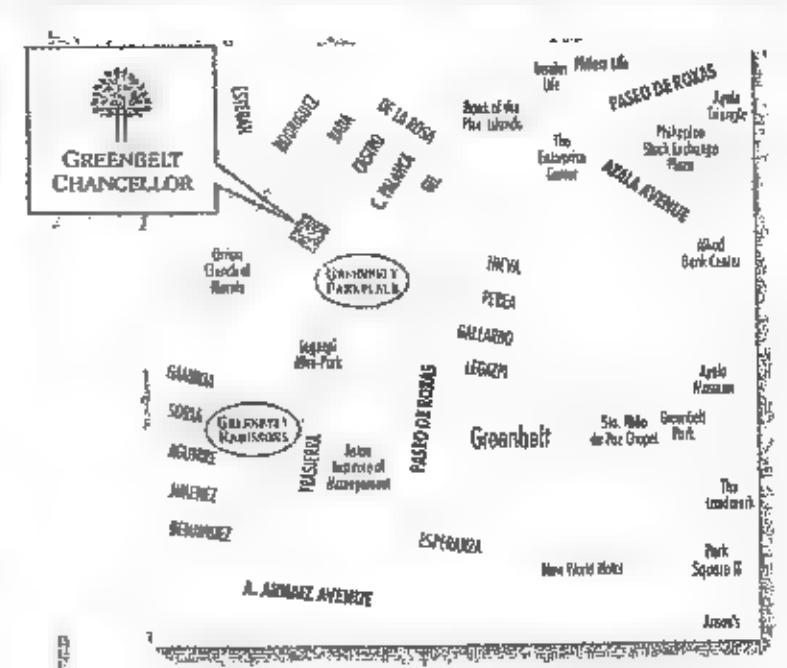
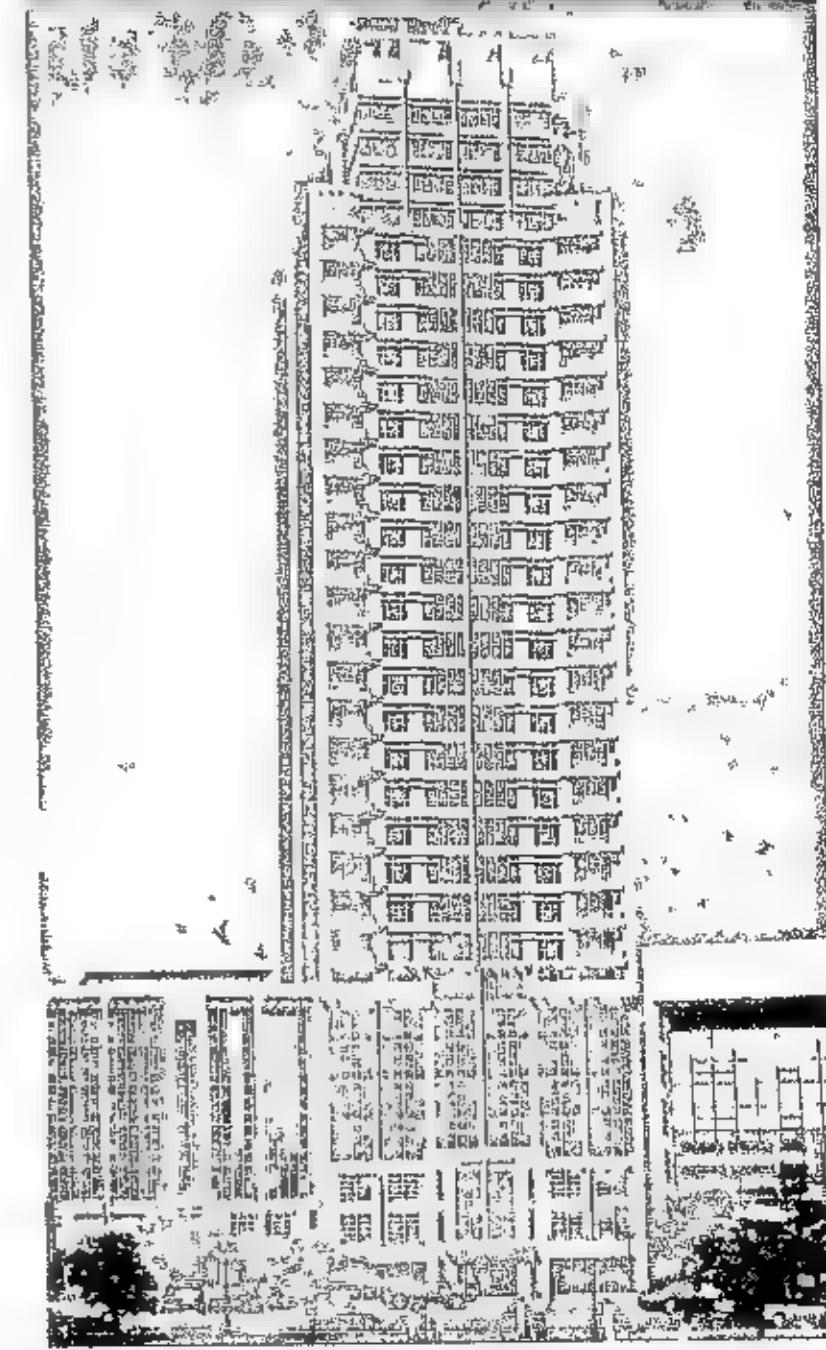
at the Greenbelt Chancellor showroom/model unit,

G/F Greenbelt Parkplace, 112 C. Palanca St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Tel: 856-4220 • Cell No. 0915-3137409 • 0915-3137408

E-mail: mcbs-salesservices@megaworldcorp.com

Sales Office: G/F Greenbelt Parkplace, 112 Gil St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, Metro Manila



Pre-furnished units available for as low as

**P 12,300 a month\***

No down payment for 60 months.

A Luxury Residential Development of



MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

A Member of



Voted No. 1 Philippine Company  
in Finance/Asia's Best-managed  
Asian Companies Survey in 2007

www.megaworldcorp.com  
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

MONDAY,  
OCTOBER 29, 2007

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

Brittany BEAUTIFUL

A Vista Land Company

Demand for valuable Sucat Prime address on a high

Capturing the delightful San Francisco Bay-inspired ambience and charming Neo-Victorian architecture, The Marfori Towers is a prime address offering unmatched accessibility to Makati, Ortigas and the airport. Owning a unit has now been made easier with monthly amortizations starting from as low as P 7,481 \*\*

\* The low BPI interest for a 23 sq.m. studio unit.

THE MARFORI

# BUSINESS Monday

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

## Buyers view 180° advantage as no. 1 reason for purchase

The Marfori Towers is perhaps the only place offering a 180° view of Laguna de Bay and immediate access to top business and lifestyle hubs in Brittany's prime Sucat property development. Don't miss out on the chance to own a prime address at The Marfori Towers!

Call 830 0558 • 837 3851



TIONGSAN Bazaar exports werewolves, vampires and ghouls every Halloween

By Vincent Cabreza  
Inquirer Northern Luzon

**B**AGUIO CITY—THE SUMMER capital's signature fog lends atmosphere to old stories about its wandering ghosts, and that always means profit for local businesses.

Frequent visitors from Manila still look for the now closed "Spirits Disco" the moment they arrive for the long All Saints' Day weekend, believing they can finally glimpse the facility's elusive specter.

But they will more likely encounter street dancers wearing gash monster masks and makeup outside one of the homegrown Tiong San Bazaar buildings here.

Werewolves and vampires, who moonwalk to Michael Jackson's song "Thriller," have been a good formula because they have raised the bazaar's weekend sales by 20 percent since 1990, says store manager Junelyn Dasargo.

And like all good business practices, the dancers have been exported to the bazaar's La Trinidad branch in Benguet, which Dasargo helps manage.

She says Baguio businesses do not just dress up their shops for Halloween as malls often do, "they thrive on the stories, too."

### Urban legend

What has become profitable for Baguio businesses is the fact that the urban legend about the "white lady" here has become part of the country's memories about Baguio, say officials of the Baguio Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI).

Instead of driving tourists away, the "white lady," who is said to haunt a road that leads to Camp John Hay and the Philippine Military Academy, invites adventurous visitors to a midnight haunt and a snack or drink downtown, says Jacquelyn Acoba Ver, 70, BCCI assistant board secretary.

These stories are rarely forgotten because they are often stuff reinvented over the Internet or reenacted in films, she says.

### Holiday economics

Officially, the brisk tourism Baguio generates because of the "horror stories" is the best example of how Malacañang's "holiday economics works," says Carlos Honorio Estepa, board director of the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA).

"People will always spend more time on holiday if the holiday is longer. Japan has recognized this theory," he says.

But Estepa acknowledges that Baguio fog has given the city a marketing dimension no other town can beat.

He says fog is the same reason why marriage counselors and wedding planners still recommend Baguio for weddings.

"The fog and the chill may mean romantic weddings, but it also means a fantastic adventure for this generation who still see Baguio ghost stories flashed on television this time of the year," he says.

Baguio business has had a quiet partnership with "its ghosts since the 1950s," Acoba Ver says.

### Quiet partnership

Most of the popular Baguio ghost stories date back to the 1950s and the 1960s, and are often tied to wanderings spirits of Japanese or Filipino soldiers who died at the end of World War II.

Baguio was designed and built by the American colonial government, but Halloween was never openly celebrated here, except inside Camp John Hay, Estepa says.

Halloween in the 1970s were often initiated by American servicemen and American expatriates, who ended up partying by themselves downtown, he says.

But Baguio ghost stories thrive because even traders are compelled "to live with their ghosts, and it has not affected their businesses at all," Acoba Ver says.

"Teachers Camp [which is celebrating its centennial in 2008] has been the subject of various ghost stories. The camp rents out dormitory rooms to teachers and students—and I live there as a teacher. Yet, students still camp there today even if the ghost stories persist. They come expecting a fright-filled evening and end up in each other's embrace," she says.

Vallejo Hotel, an old American-style building near the Baguio Cathedral, inspired many ghost stories in its heyday because of the architecture.

"But people still booked rooms there [until it closed seven years ago]. Stories passed down to Manila folk involve visitors feeling an invisible presence nudge their hand or their back. But like many Baguio horror stories, these spirits are harmless, never malevolent," Acoba Ver says.

### Made up stories

Many other ghost stories attributed to other stores were made up, but traders used those to their advantage, she says.

She says "Spirits" was created by businessman Alex Mina in the 1980s, and it became popular because of stories shared by customers that the disco house hosted "a presence."

"People came looking for the ghost. I never felt anything at the time. But young people came again and again, so it became popular," she says.

Tiong San Bazaar also had no ghost stories to rely on.

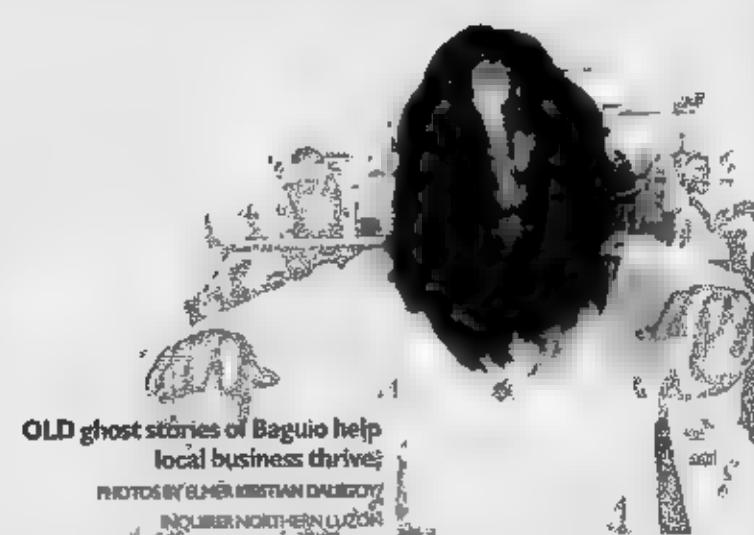
But it was conscious about the city's haunting reputation, so Joseph Cabarie, the bazaar's marketing expert in Baguio, convinced store clerks and attendants to volunteer as the store's Halloween dance troupe, says Dasargo.

The dance troupe helped sell the store's inventory of masks (priced at P200 to P300 apiece) but it soon noticed a considerable rise in sales between Oct. 28 and Nov. 2, she says.

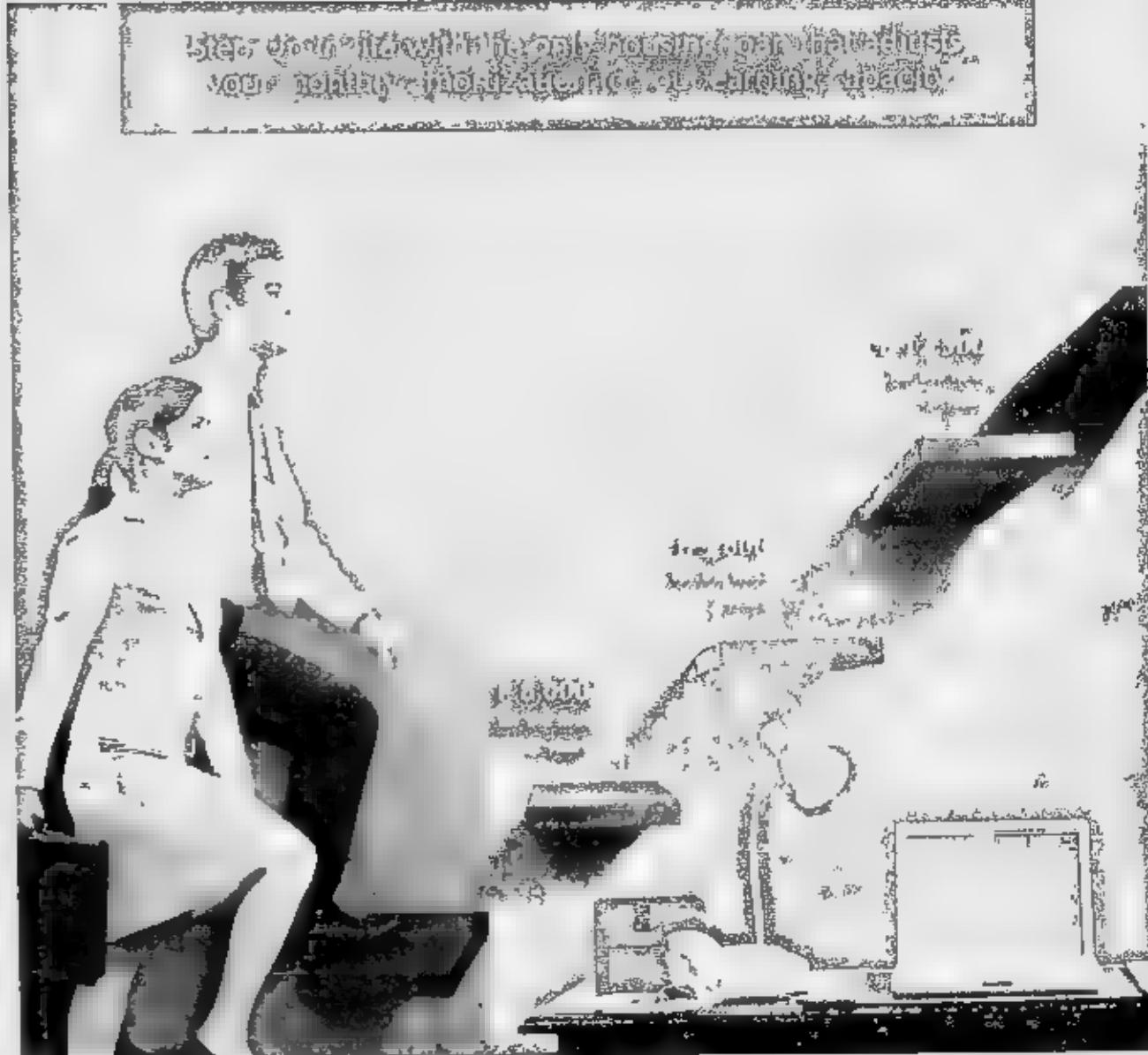
The troupe has altered its cast, but continues to dance at the store front on Harrison Road here each year, Dasargo says.

The volunteers are not paid extra for the chore, "but they love doing it because it helps their promotional prospects and it helps management pick out the talented workers," she says.

## means profit



OLD ghost stories of Baguio help local business thrive  
PHOTOS BY ELMER KIRIAN DALEGOY  
INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON



With fixed payments that you can afford right now, there's no reason to wait for your dream home.

### Introducing BPI Family Savings Bank's Step UP Housing Loan

We offer you affordable amortization plans with fixed loan payments for 15 and 20-year terms

#### Loan Term : 15 Years

Amount	Payment Schedule
P 8,000	first 2 years
P 11,800	next 2 years
P 13,600	Remaining 11 years

putation as of P 1,000,000 loan

#### Loan Term : 20 Years

Amount	Payment Schedule
P 8,000	first 2 years
P 9,800	next 2 years
P 12,500	Remaining 16 years

For more information, call 845-6888, 754-6747, 754-6582, 754-6557 or 89-100. Text HOUSING<space>name<space>message and send to 0917-8910000 or 0918-8910000.

Log on to bpiexpressonline.com or visit any BPI, BPI Family Savings Bank or Express Banking Center near you.

Initially available in Metro Manila and soon in the provinces.

Build your Dream!  
HOUSING LOAN



BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK

Get started on tomorrow

# Poverty reduction main business of BiD Challenge

By Riza T. Olchondra

**BEING THE FIRST BUSINESS** plan competition to address the problem of limited access to investors for the small and medium enterprise (SME) segment, it comes as no surprise that the Philippine BiD Challenge received a warm response in its first year.

The competition encourages the development of business models that generate profit and support poverty reduction by matchmaking the proponents with promising business plans to mentors and potential investors. The 100,000 cash award to the 10 best entries were surely a great draw, but more than the cash, competitors were attracted to the possibility of being mentored by specialists and being matched with prospective investors.

The Philippine BiD Challenge is a satellite search of the International BiD Challenge, which the Business in Development (BiD) Network Foundation initiated to stimulate and support business ideas that are geared toward making profit and improving living

standards in developing countries. The program was introduced to the country with the non-profit group Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) spearheading the local effort.

PBSP trustee Marizzi Prieto, chairman of the board of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and one of the jurors for the Philippine BiD Challenge, noted that there was a wide range of entries, which is good for giving various industries more exposure.

By the end of May this year, 221 proposals were submitted, of which 169 met the criteria. Each plan was screened three times by separate professionals in the Philippines. The rating and constructive feedback has been shared with the entrepreneurs.

The 50 Round 2 participants were given the green light to develop a solid and full-fledged business plan by Sept. 3. They were provided with an expert to coach and mentor them during the process.

Out of the 50, only 42 turned in their plans for the Jury of the Philippine BiD Challenge to study.

Jurors also interviewed the finalists before selecting the winners.

Finally, in an awards gala on Oct. 22 at the AIM Conference Center in Makati City, the 10 best entries were announced. The top two were named national winners and qualified their respective authors to compete in the worldwide phase in the Netherlands come the first week of December.

The winners were "KingsGrill" by Romy Miranda and Conrado Contreras, and "Tire Recycling" by Gene Bonggo.

Rounding up the top 10 were "Peanut Project" by Raffy Espiritu, "Tenorio Mania" by Brian Tenorio, "Roof Tiles From Lahar" by Adolfo Pinlac, "Promoting Muscovado" by Deborah Sabarre, "Charcoal Production" by Juan Marquez, "Crab Shells" by Alfonso Gamboa, "Lemon Grass Oil" by Aladino Moraca, "Every Home Will Have One" by Macario Galvez.

Each of the winning business plans earned P100,000 for the authors to use as capital. In addition, Miranda, Contreras and Bonggo each won tickets to the Netherlands to join the world competition phase.

But PBSP chairperson David Balangue, a managing partner of SGV & Co., said that he hoped the competitors would continue to work on their respective projects and encourage other socially-oriented entrepreneurs to do the same.

"(They) are all winners, and this is certainly not the end. There is certainly a brighter future ahead for innovative and socially-oriented businesses," he said.

BiD Network Foundation director John van Duusen had something to say to local investors as well. "There was some innovation and good support, and in the future we would like to see a lot



GENE Bonggo and Romy Miranda, 2nd and 3rd from left, hold KLM airlines models after the two win the Philippine BiD Business Challenge at the SGV conference hall in Makati.

PHOTOS BY RONNY HOMELADA

more innovation. We encourage investors and financial institutions to adopt socially-oriented business plans so that they can attract foreign investments. This will promote matchmaking and encourage more innovative business centered on poverty reduction. Local investors can take the first step, so that foreign investors can take it a step further."

The top ten winners:

1. "Tire Recycling" by Gene Bonggo. Through a simple buffing machine process, scrap tires are made into shredded, reclaimed rubber. International buyers from China and other countries have a large appetite for this and the production is easily (micro-) franchised out. This established business wants to expand its operations.

2. "Kingsgrill" by Romy Miranda & Conrado Contreras. Kinggrill produces a quick-to-light, biodegradable, environment-friendly, safe and economical source of alternative fuel; it's a charcoal solution, which is a collaboration with CMC Ventures and Filgenity, Inc. in Scandinavian countries.

3. "Peanut Project" by Raffy Espiritu. Selling a market-preferred, high-yielding peanut variety to domestic clients through seed access, technology extension, postharvest processing and marketing.

4. "Tenorio Manila" by Brian Tenorio. Philippine-made bespoke designer shoes. Western Inspiration + Eastern Imagination = a Global Understanding of Stylish Footwear.

5. "Roof Tiles" by Adolfo Pinlac. Manufacturing of long lasting, low-cost concrete roof tiles using a proven technology, bringing it to commercial scale.

6. "Promoting Muscovado" by Deborah Sabarre. Muscovado is a brown, soft sugar laced with more minerals and trace elements beneficial to the body. Increasing demand for healthy sugar both in the domestic and export markets led some sugarcane farmers' cooperatives in Western Batangas to consolidate and in partnership with ideals, develop a muscovado sugar processing enterprise.

7. "Charcoal Production" by Juan Marquez. The coconut husk charcoal briquettes are a cleaner and cheaper alternative to liquified petroleum gas (LPG) and are easier to prepare. Besides, it provides alternative fertilizer and pesticide.

8. "Crab Shells" by Alfonso Gamboa. For this community enterprise, crab meat is a primary product for export while crab shells were considered waste. Crab shells, fortunately, can be processed into chitin and chitosan, which are widely used in pharmacology, medicine, dietetics, biotechnology, cosmetics, waste water treatment, textile and wood and paper manufacturing.

9. "Lemon Grass Oil" by Aladino Moraca. Oil extracted from organically grown lemon grass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) is an active ingredient in perfumes, cosmetics, soap, hair care products and has medical elements. Our three years of past research on the design, management, community organizing approaches and marketing of produce guarantees the smooth operation of an essential oil enterprise.

10. "Every Home Will Have One" by Macario Galvez. Profound health education through popular book, written in the lay person's language. Short "clinical stories." The business aims to translate this book into Filipino and sell it.



DAVID Balangue (left), chair, Philippine BiD Challenge, shakes hands with Ambassador Robert Brinks of The Netherlands.

## Palaisdaan Restaurant at 16: Creating a niche with country ambience and good food

WHEN THE LATE ENTREPRENEUR Marianito "Eto" de los Santos of Tayabas, Quezon, transformed his "barikan" (drinking area) into a home-based business in 1991, little did he know that he will be starting one of the most sought-after country dining places in the Philippines—Palaisdaan Restaurant.

Rene de los Santos, son of Mang Eto and now the restaurant's proprietor, recalls that such venture was a wise move by his father.

"My father, then engaged in farming and construction supply, entertained friends in his sprawling farm and fishpond in between shots of lambanog," he recounts.

"Meanwhile, my mother, Filomena 'Luming' de los Santos, is a good cook who could easily whip up dishes for

guests who enjoy the country air from Mt. Banahaw," he added.

News of her cooking savvy and the place's natural charm spread like wildfire and soon the couple began receiving food orders more than they could handle.

With borrowed capital, the couple decided to run their place as a full-blown enterprise, hired helpers and built additional bamboo and nipa huts to accommodate the growing patronage.

They also introduced the floating raft dining hut, a novel concept which will later be replicated by other restaurants in other parts of the country.

Soon after, hordes of foreign and local tourists, celebrities, politicians and VIPs from all over were flocking to the place which included the then Senator Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Over the years, they land-



KUWERDAS string ensemble serenades diners

scaped the area and added boating and fishing activities for the family, making it a must-see tourist destination in the Laguna-Luban corridor.

Delos Santos said that despite its touristic character,

Palaisdaan's main attraction is

still the traditional Filipino cuisine such as seafoods, kare-kare, and grilled meat.

The restaurant's specialty is the "sinugno" or grilled tilapia in coconut milk and menudo, Tayabas' local version of the menudo.

Native delicacies such as longganisa, budin (cassava cake) and nilupak are also available. For an authentic feel of barrio dining, food should be eaten "kamayan" style.

Dining experience is enhanced by the harmonious blending of the voices of Kuwerdas, the resident string ensemble of the restaurant which can sing kundiman, oldies standards, Spanish songs and even Pinoy novelties.

According to Delos Santos, Palaisdaan peaks during the summer-time fiestas in Laguna and Quezon provinces, where people go to religious pilgrimages and group excursions.

He said that on a typical day, they receive an average of 150 visitors, attesting to its mystic drawing power despite its secluded location.

On weekends, he said there are visitors who drive all the way from Manila just to have a sumptuous lunch or dinner, and enjoy the sights by the rustic countryside. Many of them are balik-bayans who sorely missed good Filipino food.

Today, Palaisdaan has grown into a 1.3-hectare property, with 34 bamboo huts, 24 of them floating, and four multi-purpose pavilions which can accommodate up to a thousand guests.

The restaurant currently has a staff complement of more than 30 waiters and cooks.

As part of its expansion, Palaisdaan Restaurant will open several lodging units by December for guests who want to enjoy total rural experience.

Get the  
**AVANZA**  
ADVANTAGE



TOYOTA  
500  
THOUSAND

AVANZA  
MOVE AHEAD!



**S.R. EMMA**  
Alday, owner  
and manager  
of Casarap.



## Former nun runs business for fun

**Text and Photos**  
by Maricar Cinco  
*Inquirer Southern Luzon*

**SAN JOSE, BATANGAS**—Casarap defines a greenhouse in a totally different way. Behind the tendrils and vines of vegetables and ornamental flowers is what its nun-turned-proprietress calls “fun dining.”

It also serves as a gallery of Batangueño arts and culture amid an ambiance of peace and privacy.

Casarap is owned and managed by Emma Alday, 63, a former nun, and her sister Sonia. Its name is derived from “caso,” which means house in Spanish, and “rap” for Restaurant and Alternative Products.

In Batangas, “casarap” is a colloquial expression for something very delicious.

### Organic

Most of the ingredients used at Casarap are naturally grown or or-

ganic. Emma herself harvests the vegetables from her garden, which has 10 varieties of herbs and spices.

The meat comes from organically grown hogs in Quezon and cattle in Batangas. Organic rice is served.

Emma owes her culinary skills to her mother. When she was still in the convent, she would write her mother and ask for recipes. “At least, I know what tastes good and what does not,” she says.

A pinch of her creativity helps her in the kitchen. “I experiment,” she says, referring to the restaurant’s specialties like cassava fritters (okay) with ice cream and *lanbanog* (distilled coconut wine) as syrup.

The *lanbanog*, served with the dessert or sold in bottles, comes from “unang hanga” (first harvest), said to be the purest and strongest.

Casarap also offers corn-squash soup, *puso* salad (banana blossom salad with vinegared fish) and vegetable salad with blue temate.

“Everybody serves salad, but many appreciate our dressing,” Emma says. Her secret recipe? “Different spices, herbs and the right amount of sour, salty and sweet taste,” she says.

### No fine dining

With a small staff of six, Casarap remains a refined yet casual restaurant-cum-gift shop. “Nothing formal here, but all fun dining,” Emma describes the service.

Guests are reminded to bring their plates and utensils to one area, and “they appreciate it,” Emma says. Drinking water is self-service.

Among the customers are movie personalities, tourists and divers heading for the Anilao beaches in Batangas.

“It is a good sign that the old customers keep coming back,” Emma adds. This means that they are pleased with their experience at Casarap, she says.

Casarap also has a prayer room

where customers are not allowed to eat but are definitely encouraged to relax and reflect.

For nature lovers, the restaurant overlooks the Malaking Tubig River and has a 133-step stairway leading to the riverbanks.

The gift shop displays Emma’s handicraft items for sale. These including dried leaves and flowers, paintings and pottery.

One of her remarkable works is the Filipino clay version of the *belen* (Nativity scene). Emma says the concept is inspired by an old friend in the convent, featuring St. Joseph who is hanging diapers and characters in typical native costumes.

### A practice of vow

Emma left the convent with other nuns at the height of martial law during the Marcos dictatorship and settled in a family-owned farm in Tiaong, Quezon. Taking with her the way of thanking people who had helped her through a successful pituitary gland operation by gathering them here and giving them her handmade gifts.

Another reason was her being a member of the Susi Foundation, an environmentalist nongovernment organization. Emma realized that the place was a good spot for the

group to monitor the pollution in the rivers of San Jose.

### Far from retiring

Everyday, Emma wakes up at 4 a.m., spends time for Zen meditation, and heads straight to her garden for a partnership with God. She never liked gardening before and always managed to escape the task in the convent, she says.

Until she was exposed to activism, she was able to convince herself that “it is important to go back to the soil.”

At least twice a week, she goes to Tiaong to supervise the six-hectare farm and fishpond of the foundation which she currently heads. Susi promotes organic farming and develops the “slow food movement” (contrary to “fast food” or artificially produced food).

Emma is also developing a bonsai park for Sonia in San Jose, a 15-minute drive from Casarap. When the park is completed, she may also serve Casarap dishes there.

# What You Don't Know Is Hurting You

**F**or over two thousand years, mankind has been carrying out his business without the aid of electronic networks. One may be tempted to assume that we can continue doing business without the hassle of integrating more technology into the system. Pen-and-paper record keeping and physical delivery of information has been tried, tested, and abused over the years. The telephone and fax turned everything over its head in only good ways; it was the same case for the computer. Today the complexity and difficulty of converged network systems can be daunting, as can be the price.

But while you may think you are doing fine, you are losing out in profits to other, more efficient competitors – losing in ways you may not even know about. In today's rapid-paced world, even technologies such as faxes and regular voice-services are rendered obsolete by current trends, and you can forget about turning back to hand-driven methods of accounting and communications. Losses to the tune of 100 billion USD plague companies worldwide simply because of bad systems design, according to a study by Nielsen. Inefficiency, employee productivity squandered on mindless, repetitive tasks, missed opportunities, capital wasted on maintaining islands of systems that overlap imprudently all of these add up to major losses.

One way to describe the world today is to call it information-intensive. And having access – quick access – to relevant information about your business, and being able to distribute that information to all your stakeholders is vital to surviving in the market. In this way orders can be taken

and processed quickly, and therefore acted upon. If uncertainties arise, an answer can quickly be acted on instead of analysis-paralysis. Better-informed decisions are more-profitable decisions. And decisions made without vital information can be disastrous.

What you have to consider is more than cost. Your better-equipped competitors may be racing past you in terms of growth and productivity, and it is getting harder and harder to play catch-up. In today's fast-paced, highly-competitive market, you simply cannot afford to lose any edge you have over competitors. Only a custom-fitted, highly effective information and communication technology (ICT) solution is a definite advantage to any kind of business. And more kinds of businesses are looking to this solution.

Nothing has really changed: reliable communications is a constant business need. PLDT, realizing this, began putting together a package to offer exactly this to businesses of all sizes, but without the complexities and costs inherent in setting up such an advanced network. It comes down to a question of specialization. Obviously, companies specialize in things other than communications networks. Their time is better spent attending to their core competencies. It makes more sense for them to ask someone who is already an expert at managing communications networks to handle it for them. It is more cost-effective than the alternative, committing resources such as employee time and effort, and capital for buying all the equipment necessary, into setting one up for yourself or doing without a network altogether.

**SNAPI** (Simplified Networks on Auto Pilot), PLDT's newest offering seeks to minimize costs and maximize gains for



If you are not prepared to network, success may hurt.

companies in need of either a whole new IT infrastructure or wishing to augment their current set-up. Set-up and maintenance is attended to by PLDT staff. Equipment is leased, not sold, to minimize capital expenses down to a small set-up fee, and to grant flexibility to the clients in regards to fast-paced technologies. Once needs expand further, adding in new components can be done in a snap



### Why Network with SNAPI?

Are you serious (about business)?

Just one computer improves your business efficiency, think of five or ten of your PCs running the right server solution and working in profitable harmony. Networking your business ties in all the essential assets of your company, and SNAPI is the easiest way to address all your IT concerns. When you do decide to network, SNAPI combines PLDT expertise with the ICT industry's leading names that provide you with the right bundled solution of servers, PCs, and networking to suit your specific needs. When you network with SNAPI, you don't need to haggle and negotiate with different suppliers and since it's a PLDT solution, you're free from the hassle of setting up and managing your new network. It's the closest thing to a Plug N' Play network, there is...

Just as all your solutions are provided and managed by PLDT, you also get a full warranty on all your hardware and an Ix5 Helpdesk. That's the benefit of having PLDT as your Single Point of Contact to deal with these concerns for you...

You get SNAPI on a straight-lease arrangement, that frees you from considerable Capital Expense outlays, leaving you with a few fixed and predictable operating cost every month.

So in this age of increasing competition, where the guy who picks the winning ICT solution wins the day, can anybody really waffle and sit on the fence with regards to networking their business? It's really a moot question isn't it?

companies can choose from an array of hardware models available under the offering. And all the client has to do is use their new integrated network, without worrying about the details. They can leave that up to PLDT.

The name says it all, networks are simplified for their clients.



Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

# BUSINESS Monday

## Vitamin A vaccination drive in full swing

By Desiree Caluza  
Inquirer Northern Luzon

**BALBALAN, KALINGA**—ALL THAT Geraldine Balao-as wants is for her year-old son Gregory to have a bright future.

That was why the 28-year-old mother patiently joined the queue of parents who brought their children,

as young as 17 months, to receive Vitamin A supplementation (VAS) from health workers in the farming village of Balbalasan here.

Gregory was one of the 10,000 children in the Cordillera who recently received VAS under the "Seeing is Believing" campaign of Standard Chartered Bank, the Helen Keller International (HKI) and

the Department of Health.

The campaign aims to eliminate blindness and malnutrition among children in remote areas, said Zenaida Iglesias, the bank's senior vice president for corporate affairs.

The Cordillera, according to Iglesias, has the lowest coverage of VAS among the regions, which makes

VITAMIN A 2

### Giving overseas Filipinos a helping hand

NEARLY every Filipino has a friend or relative working and living overseas. The families of approximately eight million Filipinos overseas are benefitting from the over \$14 billion in remittances this year. As much as it is a key driver of the economy, working abroad is part and parcel of Filipino family life.

The stories are familiar to most of us. The nurse who works long hours in North America battling loneliness and exhaustion in order to keep siblings at school back home. A contract worker in the Middle East or a seaman facing the hazards of maritime travel, enduring family separation in exchange for a better life. Finally, there's the doctor who becomes a nurse in lieu of better work opportunities.

Life apart from family is difficult enough for OFWs. The one thing they want to be sure of is that their hard-earned money safely reaches their loved ones back home. Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. (Metrobank), the country's largest bank, takes this need to heart, designing products and services that provides better value for the OFW and his beneficiaries.

Fast, safe, and reliable. The bank has long been known for providing fast and convenient service to overseas Filipinos wherever they are. Through services like Superbill Padala, an online real time remittance service, a Filipino abroad can send remittances back home in a matter of seconds. An added service is the text messaging system that informs the beneficiary that money has been remitted. Plus, Metrobank offers superior convenience to remitters abroad through its global network comprising eight foreign branches, 27 remittance offices, 40 remittance tie-ups, and more than a thousand correspondent banks in 21 countries.

Better products for beneficiaries. Recognizing that OFWs needs are also evolving, Metrobank continues to introduce new products and services that are in tune with the times. For instance, the World Cash Card offers superior convenience to beneficiaries by getting remittance through over 7,000 ATM terminals all over the country. In addition, the beneficiary can take advantage of all the conveniences that a Metrobank ATM card can offer like paying bills over the ATM and using the card to pay for purchases at Bancnet-accredited merchants.

More services with added value. As the profile of Filipinos working abroad changes, new services are being offered by the Bank for their changing lifestyle and increasing spending capacity. Metrobank has introduced bundled car and housing loan packages for remittance beneficiaries. Through this innovative approach, the Bank helps OFWs and their families realize their dreams and higher goals for a better life.

The Bank also continues to extend its services through partnerships with institutions that help OFWs like PAG-IBG (formerly known as Home Development Mutual Fund). By signing up PAG-BIG in its bills payment facility, Filipinos abroad located in Italy, Singapore and Hong Kong can now pay monthly PAG-BIG membership contributions, housing or multi-purpose loan payments.

Well aware of the hardships that accompany living and working overseas, Metrobank makes it a point to actively support and connect with Filipino communities abroad. Assistance through financial literacy programs and information drive on savings and good investment choices are being extended by the Bank.

While Filipinos working abroad may never truly feel at home until they are reunited with their families, Metrobank offers familiarity of home. The Bank helps by being a reliable financial partner that fellow Filipinos can count on for a better life.

*Salamat*  
at gumaan din ang buhay.

### Global remittance services in over 20 countries.

Sa tulong ng Metrobank,  
mas madali, mabilis, at sigurado  
ang remittance mo.  
Kapag may World Cash Card,  
pwedeng makuha ang remittance  
anumang oras sa ATM.  
At may loan services para makamit ang  
pangarap mong bahay at lupa, kotse, o negosyo.

We take care of your banking needs,  
so you can live your life.



[www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph)

Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices and subsidiaries. Head Office: Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City.  
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to ₱ 250,000 per depositor.

A proud member of **BancNet**



# Online contest helps cosmetics company lure talent, raise profile

By Daxim L. Lucas

**COMPETING FOR QUALITY** management talent in the country's employment pool is not easy.

As it is, the task of attracting the best managers is difficult given that most graduates instinctively gravitate toward established marketing powerhouses like Procter & Gamble and Unilever.

This task is even more challenging for international cosmetics company L'Oréal, which also has to struggle against being typecast as a "girls only" company.

#### Strategy game

"The challenge for us is to be able to hire more talent," L'Oréal's human resources manager Arvin Crisol said in an interview. "We want the talent out there to take a closer look at our company."

The solution for the firm was to launch a business strategy game for college or graduate students enrolled in business courses from schools all over the country.

By doing so, Crisol said the company hoped to be able to attract more management talent from a wider pool while simultaneously raising the public's awareness of the

company and its products.

L'Oréal is, after all, a global brand with strong market presence abroad, but has struggled to keep up with its competition in the local market, which continues to prefer American or Japanese cosmetics brands.

"We launched this business game called the L'Oréal e-Strat Challenge basically aimed at students," he said.

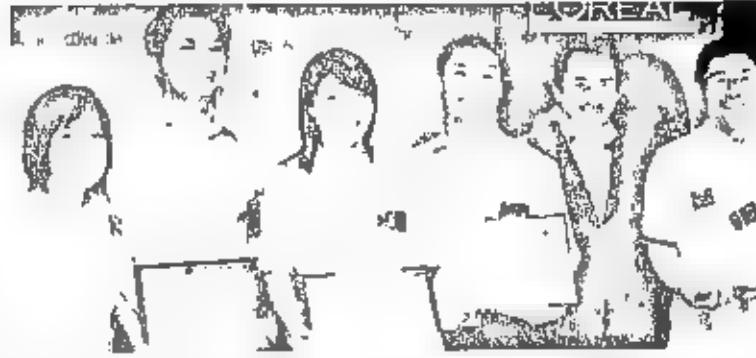
"We wanted to show them that they could go beyond beauty products in this company."

The e-Strat Challenge is an online business and strategy competition for business students, providing them with the opportunity to be in the virtual driver's seat of a leading global cosmetics company.

According to the company, student contestants act as general managers of a beauty industry company with an international portfolio of products.

Each team composed of three students will manage the company for a simulated period of three years.

Launched in 2000, the e-Strat Challenge was meant to help students understand the cosmetics business and industry.



Since its launch, over 177,000 students from over 2,200 schools have registered and joined the competition.

About 230 e-Strat players have joined L'Oréal around the world as employees after joining the contest.

#### Big prizes

In the Philippines, Crisol said that five former student contestants have gone on to join L'Oréal's team.

What's in it for the participants?

Apart from the prospect of future employment, the top three teams in the Philippines (students and their partner professors) get to win an adventure trip to Boracay, an overnight stay in a 5-star hotel, and fine dining experience in a restaurant.

The Philippine team that tops the Southeast Asia Zone gets to go on a tour of Paris, France, while the eventual international winner will have the opportunity to visit any country of their choice for one whole week.

Now on its eighth year in the Philippines, Crisol said that the number of participants has been increasing, from 12 in 2001 to 126 in 2006.

Last year the Philippines had the most semifinalists with 22 teams making it to the top 300 teams in the region.

"Things are certainly looking up, and I predict that the next international winner will come from our country," he said, adding that his optimism is boosted by the enthusiasm of the students and the support of their professors.

PHILIPPINE grand winner, Team Pilota from Ateneo, with L'Oréal officials



"It takes enthusiasm, strategy and teamwork to do well in e-Strat," the L'Oréal official said. "With our students' familiarity with online competition, business aptitude and competitive spirit, we have an advantage. If you include the guidance and support of the professors, then we can certainly compete with the best students in the world."

#### Bridging program

Last year, the competition was awarded the Technology-Enhanced Program Accreditation by the European Foundation of Management Development.

"This essentially means that on a worldwide level, e-Strat has been

recognized as a program bridging the professional and educational worlds and providing an innovative and rich learning experience to the students who participate," Crisol said.

"For students with one more year or one more semester left of studies, the L'Oréal e-Strat Challenge is definitely a tool that would synthesize all their business learning and assess their competitive advantage as they prepare for the corporate world," he said.

(Business students interested in joining the L'Oréal e-Strat Challenge can contact Arvin Crisol at 09175748421, 6320280 loc. 202 or crisol@ph.loreal.com.)

# Flourishing Filipino furniture

By Bloey Singson  
Contributor

**IN THE GLOBAL MARKET FOR FURNITURE**, the Philippines is touted to be the Milan of Asia. The unparalleled design and craftsmanship of locally manufactured furniture pieces have earned for Philippine furniture a prime spot in the world market.

The Philippine furniture industry ranks fourth in the Philippines' top merchandise exports, with sales amounting to \$86.27 million, according to the National Statistics Office's Merchandise Export Performance released in June 2007, posting a 20-percent growth from \$71.87 million in June 2006.

Wood and rattan products continue to remain as the major product lines exported, collectively comprising more than three fourths of total industry export in the first half of 2007, to top export markets United States (\$167,322,081), Japan, (\$23,692,979), Australia (\$6,948,424), Great Britain and Northern Ireland (\$6,062,841), and Italy (\$5,912,864).

The Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP) remains one of the industry's strongest business support organizations. Established in 1966 by nine furniture manufacturers and exporters, this non-stock, nonprofit organization is the national association of companies, chapters and affiliates working together for the mutual benefit and the sustainable growth of the Philippine furniture industry.

With over 105 regular members, 35 associate members and 12 chapters all over the Philippines, the CFIP serves as the catalyst and advocate of the local furniture industry, striving to achieve sustainable growth and global competitiveness consistent with the individual needs and aspirations of its growing membership.

"Members learn from one another and collaborate because we share common concerns. We ensure the production of pieces that are excellent in quality, exemplary in design and craftsmanship, and distinctive in value, and guarantee the practice of ethical, sound and responsible principles of business management," explains CFIP vice president for chamber development Joy Cincio.

This October, CFIP collaborates with another industry leader, the Philippine School of Interior Design, in an exhibit entitled "Forty, Filipino and Fabulous" ("F3") at the Paseo Center (Paseo de Roxas corner Sedeño Street, Makati). The exhibit, celebrating PSD's 40th year anniversary, showcases Philippine furniture integrated into 19 masterfully designed and executed interior



traditional Filipino sofa piece which borrows the wings of the classic wing chair.

spaces, running from Sept. 30 to Oct. 31.

#### Growing concerns

CFIP underscores that the main strength of the Philippine furniture industry is design, especially pieces that incorporate indigenous materials.

Despite this edge and the constant growth of the industry, however, local exports are not doing as well as their counterparts in other Asian countries.

"About 10 years ago, price was not an issue," says Cincio. "Filipino talent and craftsmanship has allowed us to demand a higher price for our pieces. In recent years, however, we've seen improving design in other Asian countries, at more competitive prices. Thus, there is a need for the local industry to continually improve design, quality and product development to become more globally competitive."

Although the furniture industry continues to experience double digit growth, the Private Enterprise Accelerated Resource Linkages (PEARL) 2 project (funded by the Canadian International Development Agency) 2005 State of the Sector Report (<http://www.cfip.org.ph/industrylinkages.html>) accessed 03 Sept. 2007) shows that the local furniture industry is still heavily dependent on the United States market for foreign sales. In the vast US market, the country's furniture export is only about one per-

cent of total US furniture imports.

Furthermore, furniture manufacturing in the Philippines also remains to be a very highly labor intensive industry.

An estimated 15,000 companies employ about 481,500 direct workers and another 300,000 subcontractors. About 98 percent of these firms are micro, small and medium-sized operations.

"Currently, there is a need to train more woodworkers and furniture carpenters. Most of the manufacturers are involved in machine-based production, and very few remain of the old generations of furniture makers. It will be a shame if this tradition is not passed down to the younger generations," Cincio reports. "We're also losing some of our best designers to design companies abroad, even to our competitors in China, Malaysia and Indonesia."

#### Positive outlook

The Pearl 2 Project recommends that the local furniture industry focus on getting back lost market shares and developing untapped markets to curtail a decline in exports.

For furniture makers, Pearl 2 also recommends improving product competitiveness, and paying closer attention to the domestic market because the imports of furniture from low cost manufacturers abroad has led to intensified competition.

Aside from these, Cincio emphasizes the need for more government support.

"The industry has been getting support from agencies like Department of Trade and Industry and the Export Development Fund," she reports. "But there are areas of the industry that still need more government support, perhaps in the form of improved policies for exporters, or the availability of technical assistance and loans for capital investment like those in competitor countries."

Cincio remains positive that the Philippine furniture industry still has a lot of potential. "The continuous growth of the industry, despite the problems, shows us that there is a lot more we can tap into."

She points out the Filipino advantage in design. "Filipino furniture is known for a wide range of designs. Current trends in local furniture design are dark finishes, light



"KORONA" features a traditional Filipino sofa.

upholstery in Victorian or floral designs, contemporary shapes, indigenous materials (abaca, sinamay, shells and the like), seeds and twigs laminated on resin for tabletops and cabinets, and crushed bamboo for furniture and paneling."

Cincio also cites world-renowned furniture designers as examples.

"Budji Layug's designs have been carried by several Italian companies, and have been featured in Architectural Digest. Kenneth Cobonpue's furniture has been used in Hollywood films such as Ocean's Thirteen; some of his pieces are even owned by Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, two of the most internationally acclaimed personalities of our time. Design is really in our blood, and the industry will surely stand to benefit if we focus our attention on our capabilities."

Because of the innate Filipino aptitude for aesthetics and design, Cincio emphasizes the need for new blood in the design industry. "The industry is always in need of new ideas and new designs," Cincio concludes. "With the Forty, Filipino, and Fabulous exhibit, we not only hope to look forward to seeing Filipino furniture showcased in ingenious interior design, we also hope to inspire the students to branch out into furniture design, and to use their talent to make a difference in the Filipino furniture industry."

"The industry is always in need of new ideas and new designs," Cincio concludes. "With the Forty, Filipino, and Fabulous exhibit, we not only hope to look forward to seeing Filipino furniture showcased in ingenious interior design, we also hope to inspire the students to branch out into furniture design, and to use their talent to make a difference in the Filipino furniture industry."

# Vitamin A vaccination ...

From page B3-1

children here vulnerable to malnutrition and poor vision

Vitamin A deficiency is one of the major causes of childhood blindness.

"We aim to help 10 million people across 20 countries worldwide until 2010. The Philippines was chosen as one of the beneficiaries. We want to draw attention to our country to protect our children from unnecessary deaths," she said.

#### High mortality rates

The Philippines, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, and Sierra Leone have high mortality rates among children under five years old. They also have high rates of Vitamin A deficiency and malnutrition, Iglesias said.

The VAS campaign started in 2003 in Bangladesh where many of the children are blind due to the lack of vitamin A.

"We started with a small fund-raising for cataract operation in Bangladesh, which at that time only cost \$25. When it became successful, we decided to do a worldwide campaign to make a difference because we saw the same cases in India, Nepal and South Africa. We committed to raise \$5 million until 2006 to help save a million [people]," Iglesias said.

The fund-raising exceeded the target amount and in three years, the campaign restored the sight of a million people, she said.

#### Shifting priority

It was this undertaking which inspired Standard Chartered Bank to save more as it shifted to preventing blindness by providing VAS to children, she said.

The Cordillera has a VAS coverage of only 69 percent, the lowest among the country's 17 regions, said Ellen Vilate, country director of the HKI, an international humanitarian organization dedicated to saving the sight and lives of poor people around the world.

Dr. Myrna Cabotaje, Cordillera health director, said providing Vitamin A not only saves eyesight but a host of other diseases because it helps prevent malnutrition.

"That is why it is important for the mothers to take their children to community health centers for Vitamin A supplementation because this is not an over-the-counter drug. This should be taken twice a year by growing children, from six months to seven years old," said Cabotaje.

Balbanan Mayor Alen Jesse Mangaoang said his town could serve as a model community when it comes to VAS because the local government has prioritized health over infrastructure projects.

"In Balbanan, we have a 100-percent rate of immunization among children. We want our community to serve as a model to inspire other communities to prioritize their health programs. A community with good roads and infrastructure is nothing if the health of its people is poor [and neglected]," said Mangaoang.

Flordeza Wadwadan, 32, a farmer, said that she will make sure that her six children undergo regular medical examination and receive VAS.

"My dream for my children is for them to finish their studies and be productive citizens. I can help them attain this by making sure that they are healthy," Wadwadan said.



"ENTRADA" features a butaka lounge chair.

# Coffee farming a tradition for Belamides

**APOLONIO BELAMIDE OF Silang, Cavite has planted and traded Robusta coffee for more than 30 years.**

Like most of his relatives and neighbors in Barangay Pook, Belamide is a second-generation coffee farmer and has been one throughout his adult life.

On an average year, his farm, combined with those of his siblings, produces 300 metric tons of green coffee beans (GCB), making it the top coffee producer of the province, if not Luzon.

His combined family coffee farm spanning over a hundred hectares employs more than 1,000 workers in his barangay. Neighboring farmers and small farm owners look up to his family for coffee farming and trading advice, and at times, for production capital.

In fact, Belamide is one of the rea-

s why some of the area's coffee farmers still keep their farms.

"The temptation for these farmers to sell their farm lots to rich families in Manila looking for vacation homes is really great," says Belamide in vernacular: "So we do whatever it takes to keep them farming, even if it means granting them loans without interest or profit."

The farmers of Pook have no cooperative, they also get little support from any government group.

They turn to Nestle for the assistance it has been extending.

"It's good that Nestle is always there to support us, giving free training and seminars on coffee farming," says Belamide, who has been selling to Nestle, the producer of the country's number one instant soluble coffee, since 1978.

Belamide stresses, however, that Nestle's most important contribution

to the Filipino farmers is its pricing and eight-hour payment policy, which guarantees farmers payment within eight hours after delivery of the coffee beans.

Belamide and his siblings grew up working in a small coffee farm started by their father from his earnings in transporting coconuts with carabao carts.

In 1974, Belamide, the fourth of the siblings, finished BS Commerce in Manila but opted to settle back in Silang.

He married a coffee farmer's daughter and they started a coffee farm of their own.

Twenty-nine years of hard work has helped the Belamides purchase a house and vehicles as well as put up two coffee mills and warehouses.

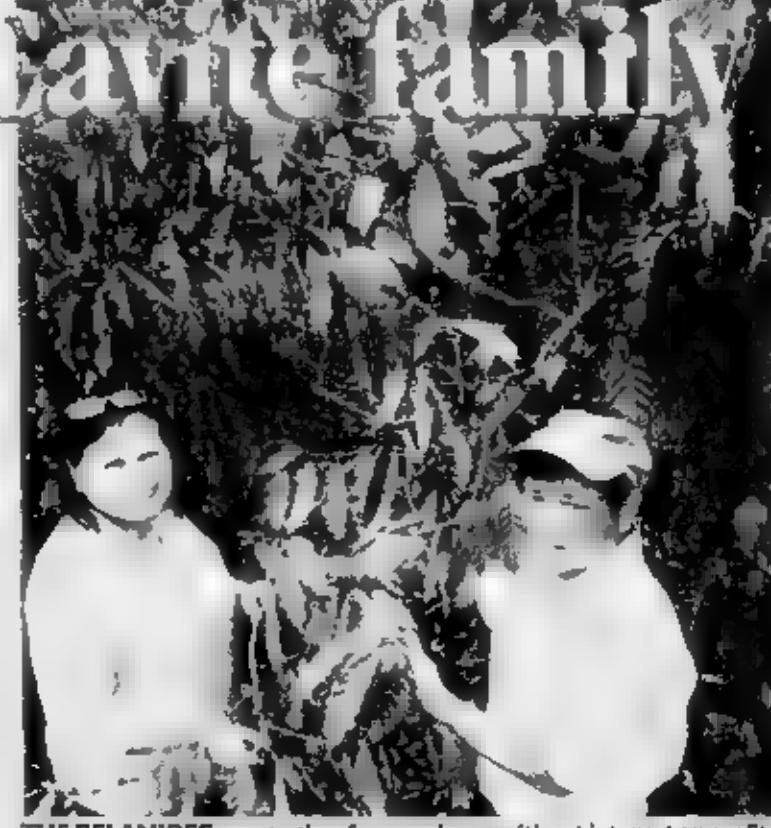
It has also enabled them to send two of their four children to study in the United States.

Belamide reveals that although the soil is not that fertile as before and that there are occasional pest problems in Silang, there is never a better time to plant coffee than today.

"Yes, there are problems in planting coffee but there's always a solution," says Belamide. "In fact, I am talking to the head of Nestle's agricultural department now for assistance in the rejuvenation of our coffee trees and producing organic fertilizer."

Belamide reveals that his youngest daughter, who is still in high school, has taken interest in the family farm and hints that she may take up agriculture instead of medicine after all.

The good news is she doesn't have to ride a carabao cart to the farm: It's a choice between their two-year-old pick-up or an SUV.



THE BELAMIDES grant other farmers loans without interest or profits so they can keep their farms.

## MOVEMENT

### New leadership for GHD in the Philippines

**LEAD NG INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMPANY GHD HAS APPOINTED Fraser Watt as Philippines Country Manager. Watt is based in GHD's Manila office.**

Watt is an environmental chemist with over 25 years experience in the scientific and environmental consulting industries in Australia and Europe. He has significant experience in environmental due diligence, contaminated sites investigation and rehabilitation, and industrial site appraisal, and assessment. He joined GHD's Melbourne office in 1998 and took over as manager of GHD's Geelong office in 2004. Under Watt's leadership, the Geelong office grew from two staff to 35 in less than three years.

Watt plans to increase GHD's presence in the Philippines by expanding staff numbers and introducing new service lines including mining and resources consultancy, and architectural services to support the Philippines' burgeoning tourism and leisure industries. He also aims to cement GHD's strong reputation in provision of International Development Assistance projects, as well as traditional offerings such as civil infrastructure services, water engineering and environmental services.

Says Watt, "It's the right time to grow our business both in the Philippines and in surrounding countries. Our people are highly skilled and motivated with strong technical experience in areas including International Development Assistance. As well as leading local projects, our Philippines office lends its services to significant GHD projects in South East Asia, the Middle East and increasingly to Australia. I plan to increase GHD's services in the Philippines, increasing the development opportunities for our Philippines staff and bringing a new range of services to our clients."

Watt takes over the role of Dean McIntyre, who moves on to a key leadership role at GHD's Victoria Operating Centre, Australia.

### Manalo, Quila appointed to PDIC Board

**THE PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE Corp. (PDIC) announced the appointment of J. Antonio M. Quila and Rogelio W. Manalo to the PDIC board of directors as private sector representatives.**

Quila and Manalo took their oath before Finance Secretary and PDIC Chair Margarito B. Teves at the Department of Finance Complex in Manila.

Both directors have previously held various senior positions in the fields of banking and public administration.

Director Quila, an economist, development banker, and commercial banker has a 25-year track record with the Asian Development Bank holding various managerial and directorship positions. He retired as the special advisor to the ADB president in 2003, as the highest ranking Filipino officer in the ADB. During his stint with the bank, Quila managed its structuring and restructuring projects, operationalized reform programs, and con-

ceived and implemented integrated operational strategies. He organized roadshows and fairs to promote ADB assistance available to countries and represented ADB in formal high-level coordination meetings and policy dialogues.

Director Quila graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics degree from the Ateneo de Manila University in 1965. He earned his Masters in Business Administration from the same university in 1971 and attended the Strategic Leadership Program at the Templeton College, Oxford University, United Kingdom in 1999.

Director Manalo has over 40 years of extensive experience in government service and banking. He has been appointed director and president of various government agencies such as the Philippine National Oil Commission Petro-Chemical Development Corp., Mimosa Golf & Country Club, Clark Development Corp. Services Inc., Clark Development Corp., Manpower Development and Youth Council, Board of Tourism and Travel, and Philippine College of Commerce. He was also an alternate member of the Committee on Preparations of the ADB from 1966-1966 and alternate member of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of the Philippines from 1966-1966. He was a former governor of the Development Bank of the Philippines and served various positions in several private banks.

Director Manalo earned his Bachelor of Arts in Government and Post Graduate in Business Administration from George Washington University, Washington DC, USA.

### Acision appoints new chief executive officer

**ACISION HAS APPOINTED RORY Buckley as chief executive officer.**

Acision, the messaging and charging company of choice for over 300 network operators and service providers worldwide, was formed in June 2007 following the purchase of LogicaCMG's Telecoms Products division for 256 million pounds (\$525 million) by a consortium led by Atlantic Bridge and Access Industries.

Buckley joins Acision from Ericsson where his accomplishments over 30 years have seen him advance from technical trainee to top executive positions across EMEA, North America and Asia-Pacific, including tenures as executive vice president Middle East and Africa, executive vice president United States, and finally president and head of Ericsson, Northeast Asia.

Buckley took up the position as CEO last Oct. 1, taking over from Chris McDermott who left the company to pursue new opportunities.

Larry Quinn, chair of Acision said: "In acquiring Acision at the start of this year we demonstrated our belief in the potential for the messaging market and in Rory we believe we have found the right leader to take the company forward. We thank Chris for his hard work in driving the company to where it is today, and look forward to welcoming Rory to lead the team in Acision's next phase of consolidating its global market leadership as the experts in messaging and charging."

**HONDA**

The Power of Dreams

[www.hondaphil.com](http://www.hondaphil.com)



*Honda continuously strives to contribute to the preservation of our natural resources by creating vehicles that are not only fun and exciting but environment-friendly as well. In fact, all the Honda automobiles sold in the Philippines meet the EURO 4 standards, minimizing the emission of harmful exhaust gases.*

*This Christmas, Honda gives back to nature and lets you discover the beauty of the environment and explore some of the Philippines' natural reserves.*

**Win a 3 days and 2 nights holiday vacation for 2 in these paradise resorts!**



6 monthly winners for a trip to Dos Palmas Resort, Palawan



6 monthly winners for a trip to Panglao Island Nature Resort, Bohol

**Promo runs until December 31, 2007 only!**

**Owning a Honda has never been this easy with these irresistible installment plans!**

Civic 1.8 V MT	777,000	116,550	15,157	388,500	8,916
Civic 1.8 S AT	884,000	132,600	17,244	442,000	10,144
City 1.3 S MT	625,000	93,750	12,079	312,500	7,059
City 1.3 S CVT	685,000	99,750	12,859	332,500	7,516
Jazz 1.3 S MT	650,000	97,500	12,678	325,000	7,459
CR-V 2.0 MT	1,205,000	180,750	23,505	602,500	13,827

Draw dates: November 16, 2007; December 14, 2007; January 18, 2008

\*All plans are subject to bank approval (BPI Family Savings Bank and RCBC Savings Bank)

Per DTI-MCR Permit No. 5322 Series of 2007

See flyers for details.



# BUSINESS Monday

## Hot jobs: It's all about networking, says Cisco

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE LOCAL IT INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO grow. But guess what? It will not be sustainable without networking specialists, and their numbers are not growing fast enough—says networking giant Cisco Systems Inc.

So what do you do? Educate those with

potential to go pro.

Topping Cisco's education agenda is the Cisco Certified Network Academy (CCNA) program.

The Network Academy trains IT students in specialized fields, specifically wireless networking, security networking and VoIP networking.

"Over the next 12 years, the top three net-

working skills needed are those for wireless, security, and VoIP (voice over the Internet) environments, and so we would like to focus on these," said Cisco Systems Philippines country manager Luichi Robles.

Data from an Asia-wide study by research firm International Data Corp. (IDC) showed that the Philippines alone already has a shortage of 1,300 skilled networking



SANDY WALSH



LUICHI ROBLES

professionals.

The shortage will increase to 2,400 by 2009, representing a compound annual growth gap rate of 22 percent.

IDC said that there will be a shortage of 396,000 skilled networking professionals in Asia Pacific by 2009.

To bridge the gap, Cisco introduced the CCNA Discovery and CCNA Exploration programs.

Both are directed at high school and college students whose networking knowledge range from basic computer technical skills to advanced equipment networking.

Sandy Walsh, Cisco Regional Manager for Education Programs and Corporate Responsibility, said the CCNA Discovery program was more for students who want to work in small-office or home-office environments.

The CCNA Exploration program, on the other hand, is for those who have technical background, say engineering graduates who want to gain specific networking skills.

Both courses can be integrated directly into technical vocational courses and degree courses in various colleges.

The Cisco Networking Academy program is a curriculum to help students and in-transition workers design, build and maintain computer networks.

The education program employs an e-learning model, using a combination of Web-based and instructor-led training along with laboratory work.

Under the program, students are prepared for industry-standard certifications such as Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) and Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP).

The networking academy program was launched in the Philippines in 1998.

Today, there are over 143 academies in the Philippines, with more than 116,000 students trained by 800 instructors.

"We recognize that 'one size does not fit all' and the Networking Academy needs to evolve to accommodate differences in student capabilities, goals and environments around the globe," Walsh said.

### *Power and banking seen as good buys*

PROPERTY STOCKS ARE EXPECTED to be among the best buys for the coming year as these will benefit from the new credit cycle brought about by the low-interest environment.

Leading online brokerage firm CitisecOnline likewise expects the power and banking sectors to maintain their good ratings.

April Tan, head of CitisecOnline's research, recommends investing in the property sector because of the "increasing affordability of properties brought about by low interest rates, availability of lower down payments and longer payment terms."

"We expect the investment climate to continue to improve as corporate earnings continue to remain strong and market participation increases provided interest rates remain low and we don't experience any negative surprises from the US market," says Tan.

For investors torn between buying shares of IPOs or blue-chip stocks, she advised that whether buying an IPO or a blue-chip stock, you need to apply the discipline of analyzing the company first according to the prospects offered by the industry, future growth prospects of the firm, earning growth drivers and valuations.

COL periodically organizes stock market briefings and industry fora as part of its ongoing investor education program.

Its mission is to empower local retail investors with sufficient knowledge on the fundamentals and technical aspects of stock trading.

1907 - 2007  
CELEBRATING  
100 YEARS  
OF COLORFUL HISTORY.



The miracles of science®



INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

AKZO NOBEL

IMONIX

RECHEMCO



THOR SPECIALTIES SDN BHD



PATCHAM

JJ-DEGUSSA

Millennium  
Inorganic Chemicals

WILKINSON MACHINERY & DISTRIBUTION



The Chemical Company



PAKAY



**IN THIS ISSUE**  
**■ Art auction**  
**of the masters**  
/D3

# LIFESTYLE

Website: [www.inquirer.net/lifestyle](http://www.inquirer.net/lifestyle)  
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso  
Subsection Editor Lito B. Zulueta

sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart) or email us at [lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph)

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 28U • THURSDAY

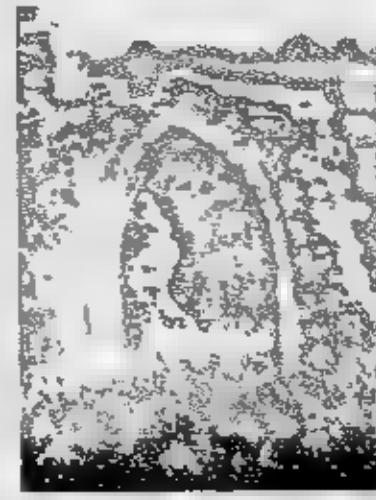
## Stella Rojas' tender communions

By Jessica Jalandoni Robillos  
Contributor

**I**N FRANCE, ONLY THE ruins of English King Richard I's castle remain. Known as Couer de Leon or Lion Heart, he battled French monarch Philip II who sought to regain French territories in the 13th century.

The sight has been chosen by Stella Rojas as one of her numerous subjects in her latest show, "French Passion," in Gallery Nine at the ArtWalk in Megamall (tel 9108016).

As often as she could, Rojas hies off to France where she paints plein air, or takes photographs to inspire her paintings. The affinity with the country is not surprising—she was,



"CASTLE of Richard the Lionheart"  
after all, the first Filipino scholar at Ecole d'Art in Aix-en-Provence in 1993. Her last solo

STELLA/C2



"BENCH and Two Large Trees, Bagatelle"



"SUNNY Town, Provence"

## WHAT'S ON



Have a feisty time watching this rock maiden perform live.

KITCHIE NADAL



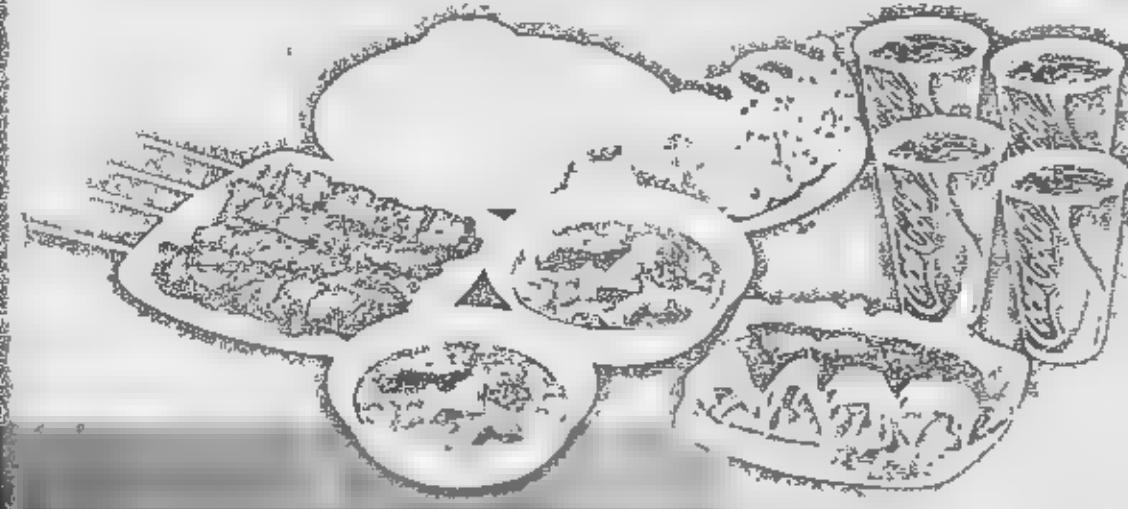
[www.robinsons-malls.com](http://www.robinsons-malls.com)

## Goldilocks Meals to Share



Meal 1  
**P449**

Calories: 650  
SAVE P7



Calories:  
Beef and Bacon  
Chicken and Bacon  
Pork and Bacon  
Tuna and Bacon  
Calories: 650 (650)  
SAVE P67

Meal 2  
**P469**

Meal 3  
**P489**

Calories:  
Beef and Bacon  
Chicken and Bacon  
Pork and Bacon  
Tuna and Bacon  
Calories: 650 (650)  
SAVE P76



"Coca-Cola" and the Dynamic Ribbon Device are registered trademarks of The Coca-Cola Company © The Coca-Cola Company 2007

**Q-DELIVERY**  
METRO MANILA & RIZAL ONLY

**888-1-999**

**Goldilocks**  
BAKESHOP • FOODSHOP  
Ang Sarap Magnahan Ng Pinoy.

**Avida**  
Affordable living at its best

An AyalaLand company



*Sure & Secure*

## Praico and Obemio in visual duet

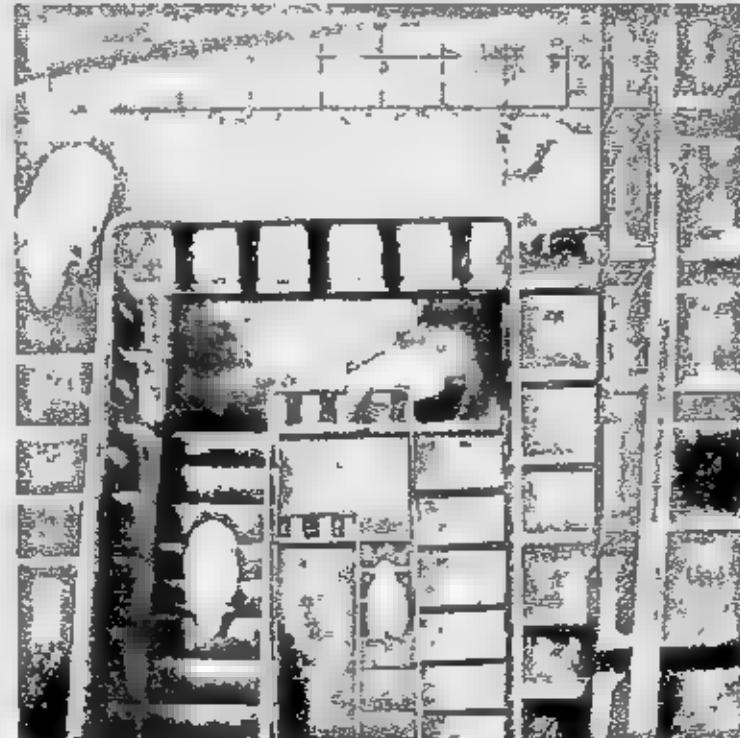


"PLAY" 2, by Roel Obemio

BRENDA PRAICO AND ROEL OBEMIO PRESENT THEIR "Recent Works" at the Library Wall of 1/floor of Gallery in Serendra, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

Praico's oils of metaphorical sheep in the city and Obemio's corpulent yet light and dreamy subjects in watercolor make for subtle visual contemplation. Brenda Praico is a graduate of University of Sto. Tomas and Roel Obemio of University of the East. Both majored in Painting.

Call 9013152 for details.



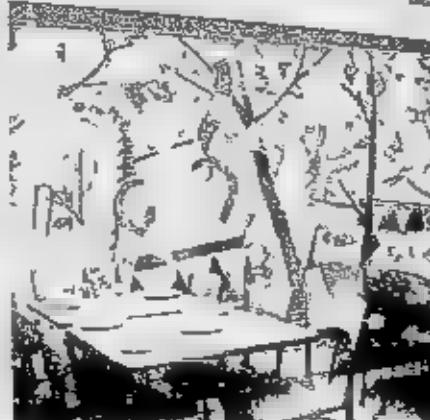
"RACE to Greener Pastures," by Brenda Praico



"BALANCING Act I,"  
by Praico

"DREAMSCAPE I,"  
by Obemio

## Delicious murals



MURAL at Congo Grille TriNoma showcases images rendered with a storybook feel, toning down the visuals so they become more appealing to family diners.

The idea of transforming the interior of Congo Grille into real works of art was sparked by our desire to provide our customers with more than just a delicious meal. We want them to enjoy the ambiance of our restaurant and relish the excitement, the adventure and the captivating images of our murals, the way they enjoy our food," said marketing supervisor Carla Villanueva.

Tapped to create these modern

animals, people and bright colors to contrast the earth tones, Ong has succeeded to paint visuals that appeal to both young and old.

"The murals that Congo Grille wanted me to create were supposed to capture a rustic element of fun, color, texture, sense of place and visually captivating cues. This is what I strived to achieve in nearly every branch. But I added a bit of originality and uniqueness in each one, so no two Congo Grille murals are alike," said Ong.

### Panoramic

The results are works of art spanning several meters of wall space within each Congo Grille branch. In restaurants that have low ceilings, the murals are rendered in a more panoramic orientation to emphasize the width. But in others with more than ample wall space, vertical elements such as tree trunks were added to emphasize the size of the artwork.

The colors are determined by the ethnic motif, with orange, green, brown, red, black and white being



YASMIN Ong, the young muralist tapped by Congo Grille, stands in front of her towering masterpiece at Congo Grille Mall of Asia.

prominent, and the other tones used sparingly as highlights or accents. The texture and blends produce images that are striking yet subdued, enticing the viewer to take a second look and catch all the details.

Even the floor of the restaurant depicts carved "animal tracks," providing the illusion that the animals depicted in the murals have come to life to leave their marks on the floor. Ethnic carved masks cap the entire artwork, with replica spears

and potted plants added to help achieve the effect of art becoming reality.

Among the finest examples of the Congo Grille murals are those in the El Pueblo branch in Ortigas Center, SM Mall of Asia and SM San Fernando, Pampanga, SM Lazaro, SM Valenzuela, SM Clark, SM Fairview, Westgate-Alabang and TriNoma.

Call 4211189, 4372911; e-mail banguetesales@conogrille.com; or visit www.conogrille.com

## The antipodes of artistic expression



"SUMMER Dance," by Maia

By Constantino C. Tejero

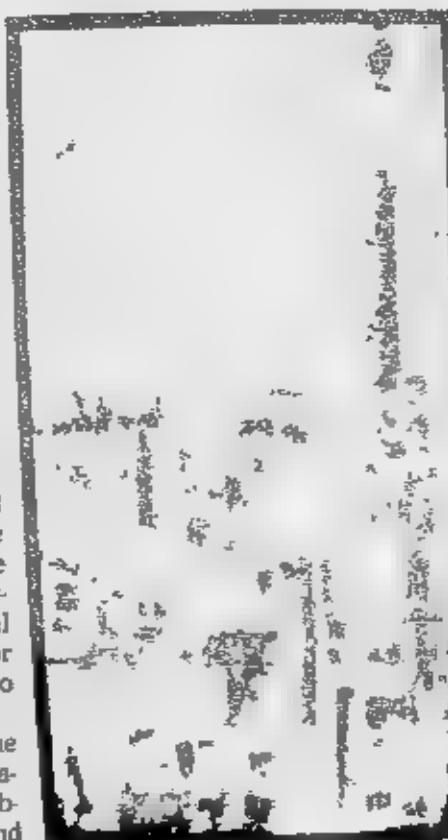
**A**CLEAR CASE OF POLARITY is Maia and Aaron Bautista's joint exhibit "Forms and Spaces," pieces in oil and mixed media on canvas, recently in Artistspace, 2/F, Glass Wing, Ayala Museum, Greenbelt Park, Makati Avenue, Makati City.

Even the exhibit's title hints at this artistic polarity—of positive form and negative space, the solid and the insubstantial, not to say the yin and the yang, or the respective maleness and femaleness of the artists. He thrives in near-monochrome and gestural technique, she in multicolor and neat drawing—no two artists could be more apart.

Finally, of course, there is the antipodal modes of representation of the figurative and the abstract, and of the precise line and the spontaneous brushstroke. In a paradoxical twist, Bautista represents the concrete (cityscape) with abstraction, while Maia tries to capture the fleeting and the insubstantial (movement, sound, breeze) through figuration.

Maia, who took up Fine Arts at Far Eastern University, says she has been influenced by the expressionism of Ang Kiukok and the Filipinism of Nemiranda.

Chiefly using a palette knife, she creates the female form with pre-



"CONCRETEscape (Red),"  
by Aaron Bautista, and (above)  
"Flutist," by Maia



"CONCRETE Perception,"  
by Bautista

line of Nemiranda, but the cubist segmentation of space is more like Malang's. In all, this is art décoratif à la Zalameda.

On the other hand, Bautista, who studied Painting at the University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts, says his approach to non-objective art approximates the method of De Kooning.

Presumably inspired by the chrome and concrete that dominate the Big City, he has created the "Chromescape," "Concretescape" and "Concrete Perception" series. Those titles notwithstanding, we see less of chrome but more of rust, and less of concrete but more of paint.

In fact, these pieces look like painted walls, specifically a mixture of pigment and cement, which is typical of the look of many a gestural painting. Yet thus

is less the impulsive style of De Kooning and more of the guided brushstroke of Art Informel.

The pieces lack the spontaneity of New York Abstract Expressionism but display the pattern-making, determined line and planned composition of German Lyrical Abstraction.

This exhibit demonstrates two artists whose modes of expression may at first look diametrically opposed, Maia lighthearted in her decorative art and Bautista somewhat heavy with vision that approaches Social Realism—but try putting their pieces closely side by side and see the visual effect.

His space would appear to be an extension of the color plane of the background where her form is set, and they'd assume a visual unity. Then you'd realize they really belong to each other.

## TYLE

## ella Rojas' tender . . .

From page C1

was in May-August this "Bench and Large Trees, elle" soothes as she captures the natural dappled light on patches of ground bage, making one pine for shade. The piece exudes such seems an ideal seat miniscences or ruminations.

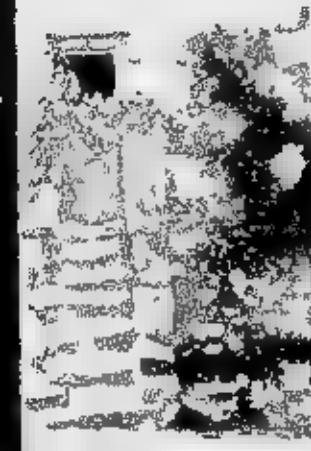
Town, Provence" one feel like taking a solo walk down the quaint alley lined by old stone walls and occasions, bursts of is.

the many landscapes, a fine work stands out not because it's life-size but cropped at the first A man carries a woman their lips are poised to meet "Baiser" (The Kiss). The says that though some it as erotica, what she is parlay is "tenderness and

says what she wants to are "the simple and the



Made Rock Formation, elle"



ROCKSTEPS, Red Flowers, "essor"

positive," from serene or light-hearted scenery to nude figures that demonstrate intimacy rather than lasciviousness.

It is truly simple. It is the

thread of communion that binds the artist with her creations—her own inner confessions, being ensconced in nature's arms, and the pure union

of lovers.

Some 10 years ago, Rojas said she would swim to get her creative juices flowing; the pool was her think tank.

Only this time, she cocoons herself in verdant, preferably

silent spaces.

In a sense, each time she returns to French greenery, it is also her return to nature, not to be swallowed but to be enveloped in its embrace of renewal. It is as if her desire to

create were bolstered, because for her, it is "the power of nature" to which admirers of her pieces are beholden.

Comments are welcome at maforday@gmail.com

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

CD

Organized and Managed by:

**COMEDDAP**  
**EXPO 2007**

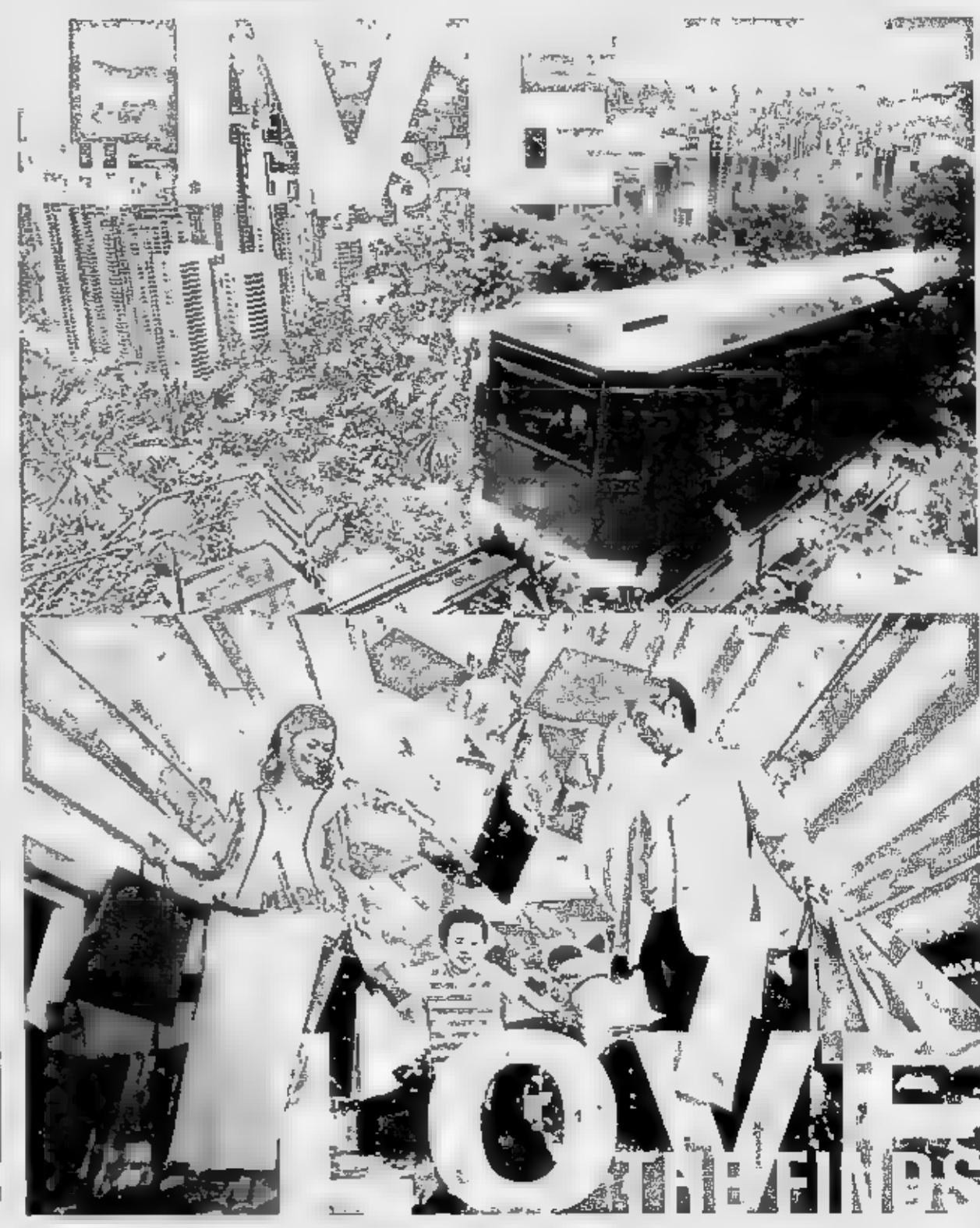
# IT'S YOUR LIFE

**EVENT INFORMATION**

**Event days: THURSDAY TO SUNDAY,**  
**Event dates: NOVEMBER 8-11, 2007**  
**Event hours: 10:00AM - 7:00PM**  
**Venue:**  
**SMX Convention Center**  
**Exhibit Hall 1, Seashell**  
**Drive, Mall of Asia**  
**Complex, Pasay City**

For more information, call EXPO Hotline 750-9456

Co-Presenter: **SMX**  
EXHIBITION & TRADE SHOW



### Hop on to non-stop family fun in Hong Kong.

Whether you're into shopping, sightseeing, or dining, the choices are endless. Around every corner, there's something new for everyone to enjoy. From a memorable tram ride to Victoria Peak to a fanciful dim sum lunch at Causeway Bay, you absolutely have to experience Hong Kong's magic with your loved ones.

One whole day is not enough to explore the thousands and thousands of the trendiest shops. You'll treasure every moment you spend in Asia's world city. So come and have the time of your life and fall in love with all that is Hong Kong. Once you live it, you're sure to love it.

For more information, please visit DiscoverHongKong.com.



Experience breakfast in bed...  
at The Linden Suites



The Linden Suites offers two & three bedroom units equipped with 32" LCD & DVD screen components, with fittings for iPod & Creative units to satisfy the most avid audiophiles. Each suite has more than enough space for small corporate brainstorms or intimate family gatherings. Our kitchens, done in black granite, provide the perfect backdrop for your culinary masterpieces. Bluffly wall mattresses and good-down pillows are the perfect bedding companion.



The Linden Suites

1 San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600  
Phone: (02) 634-2678, 2679, 2681, 2682  
Email: [sales@linden-suites.com](mailto:sales@linden-suites.com)  
Website: [www.linden-suites.com](http://www.linden-suites.com)

swiss-belhotel international

Let us pamper you. The Linden Suites new two & three bedroom units are equipped with 32" LCD & DVD screen components, with fittings for iPod & Creative units to satisfy the most avid audiophiles. Each suite has more than enough space for small corporate brainstorms or intimate family gatherings. Our kitchens, done in black granite, provide the perfect backdrop for your culinary masterpieces. Bluffly wall mattresses and good-down pillows are the perfect bedding companion.

Experience the good life at The Linden Suites

# Discover with **Greenwich's Pizza Pinoy**



Pinoys simply just love to eat. It's amazing how we can readily satisfy our craving however farfetched it may be. Sometimes we can be so crazy that we take that long drive just to have a tasty bite or carefully plan our weekend activities just to try the specialty of some new restaurant. On occasions when we are left at home, we do not hesitate at the challenge of making innovations of our favorite dishes.

Truly aware of the vibrant Filipino palate, Greenwich recently captured that essence with the new Pizza Pinoy, a delectable feast that combines all-time-favorite Filipino meals of Vigan and Lucban Longganisa, Pampanga Tocino, chili fingers, mozzarella cheese, mushrooms, and onions, topped on Greenwich's new 9-inch garlic-flavored rolled edge crust.

Known for its non-stop pizza innovation fused with a unique Pinoy twist, Greenwich is committed to offer the best-tasting pizza that suits the discriminating palate. Greenwich is confident that the new Pizza Pinoy will become an instant hit, especially for those who go for the distinct Filipino taste. Aside from offering the best to its diners, Greenwich certainly knows how to please its loyal customers.



"Greenwich is committed to providing delicious pizza and pasta products that suit the tastes and preferences of the young working adults.

The Greenwich heritage of coming up with new, creative and innovative pizza has always been our driving force—starting from the Super Sisig Pizza, Red Egg Royale Pizza, Mango Fiesta ala Mode, down to its newest product, Pizza Pinoy," said Lulu De Castro, Greenwich Marketing Manager.

Pizza Pinoy certainly gives another new reason to rush to any of Greenwich's 245 stores. For delivery orders in Metro Manila, you can also call Greenwich Delivery at 5-55-55.

Discover Delicious from edge-to-edge.  
Vigan and Lucban longganisa, Pampanga tocino, onions, mushrooms and spicy chili fingers on our new soft and chewy rolled-edge garlic flavored crust. Discover Delicious from edge-to-edge.

For feedback, e-mail us at [lifestyle@inquirer.net](mailto:lifestyle@inquirer.net)Website: [www.inquirer.net/lifestyle](http://www.inquirer.net/lifestyle)Text us your feedback:  
Inquirer life name/agb/city/message to  
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

# LIFE STYLE

## Edgar Doctor in media mix



CITY in Green

A new show  
synthesizes the artist's  
strengths and virtues

By Lito B. Zubeta

**M**IXED BAG" SHOWCASES Edgar Doctor's varied and virtuosic handling of different mediums—watercolor (but of course!), acrylic and mixed media.

The new exhibit suspiciously tends to become a retrospective, but it is not that simply because the thought is much too daunting for curators and collectors.

Like most great artists, Doctor is ambidextrous with mediums and materials: he may have gotten continuing acclaim in aquarelle, but he's equally skilled in acrylic, as well as in wood and metal sculptures.

And, as his mastery of watercolor should indicate, he's adroit at both representational art and abstracts. He has the best of both worlds.

Make that many worlds. As "Mixed Bag" shows, not only does Doctor handle well different mediums and conventions, he also excels in genre paintings.

The new exhibit, of course, is biased toward

EDGAR D2

For funnyman Joey Marquez, hairloss isn't something to laugh about. "I started losing my hair when I was about 35 years old," he recalls. "I was being called 'monsignor' because the bald spot on my head was increasing to the size of a monsignor's cap! You look older with less hair. And nobody wants to look old!"

But I didn't want to wear a wig either. With the Svenson treatments, I got back my real, natural hair! It was thicker and healthier. It made me look absolutely younger! Svenson saved me from hairloss!"

To restore your hair, call now for a FREE consultation. Save your hair at Svenson!

# Svenson

call 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKATI 15/F GT Tower

TOMAS MORATO 3/F CKB Center

BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower

ALABANG 4/F Okanaka-Fratelli Building

CEBU TEL: 234-0451

7/F Keppel Centre

- 1.4 DOHC engine with VGIS
- 4 channel anti-lock brake system
- Dual airbags • Euro ride suspension
- 60/40 rear seat split
- 14" alloy wheels

Aval of Chevrol options & options package.  
Promotional offer valid until October 31, 2007.  
Promotional offer valid until October 31, 2007.

Gift Certificate can be used to pay for LTO Registration, Car Insurance, Chattel Mortgage or as discount on car price. Gift Certificates are valid until fully consumed.

Test drive today at your nearest Chevrolet dealer: MAKATI 15/F GT Tower, 867-8183 to 87 • QUEZON AVENUE 374-1250 to 59 • SHAW 585-4944, 533-6349, 533-8375, 533-1263 • PASIG 672-1612 to 14, 672-1486  
ALABANG 77-1206 to 09 • NORTH EDSA 374-9992 to 97, 374-9963 • MANILA 564-0129 • CEBU (032) 234-0426 to 29 • PAMPANGA (045) 963-3333, (045) 860-2000 • DAVAO (082) 300-7777,  
(082) 235-3811 • DAGUPAN (075) 523-7777, (075) 523-1835, (075) 515-5577 • ILDIL (031) 329-2888, (033) 329-2222 • BACOLOD (034) 708-2489 [www.chevrolet.com.ph](http://www.chevrolet.com.ph)

Please present valid October 31, 2007. Approved by BIS-MCI Permit No. 2007 Series of 2007.

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE.



The Aveo Sedan. Ride smoothly with style.

CHEVROLET  
ROADSIDE  
ASSISTANCE  
LIMITED WARRANTY PERIOD  
70,000 KM

1800-1800-4546  
www.chevrolet.com.ph

**SONY**

**POWER UP!**

With Stamina Plus Batteries

Text Raffle Promo

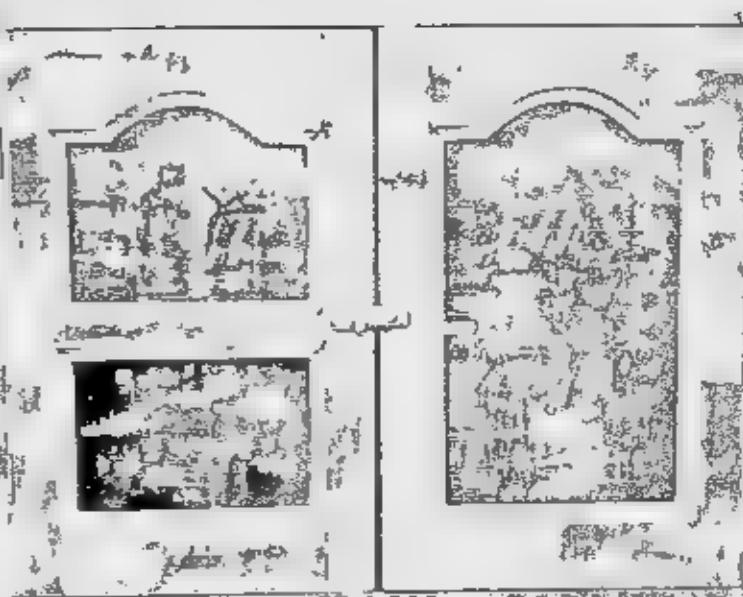
Winning 20 Sony BRAVIA and other prizes

Register Text  
SONYBATTERIES > Name / Age / Gender / Address and send to 9360

Enter your code and win a prize  
SONYBATTERIES > Unique code and send to 9360



STILL Life in Red



'GREEN World from My Window' (above); 'Red Flowers in the Garden' I (right)

## Edgar Doctor

From page D1

landscapes, marinescapes and still lifes, which are easy on the eye of both collectors and neophytes. But again and again, the artist introduces a certain twist, a certain detail that makes each piece different from the rest.

The watercolor avianscapes, for example, achieve a gossamer effect almost like a Chinese panel-painting. Meanwhile, the still lifes of fruits are done in the modern idiom, with the fruits not so much clumped together, but strategically spread on the canvas, like geometric points, the seemingly haphazard deployment calling attention to itself by shadings and splashes, a commentary on the artistic process that makes of the still life not so still, not so fixed.

The florals, another favorite of collectors, display to fine effect the drip or splash effect of aquarelle, which brazenly makes the flowers bloom and explode into pinpricks of light; a sly wink on the impressionist's trick.

### Framings and musings

But perhaps the newest twist in the show is Doctor's use of frames to provide a vantage point for the artist's musings. In the mixed-media "Green World from My Window," an acrual frame provides the edges of the artist's panorama, delimiting while also paradoxically expanding the artistic eye.

The same framing device is used in "Old City from My Window" (another mixed media), in which one of Doctor's favorite genres, the urbanscape, gets a clinical framework or skeleton, as it were, to delimit or constrain the urban sprawl and chaos. The result is uncanny: the abstracted bedlam may have been restrained, but the feeling it gives off is one of omen and foreboding, like a madman strapped for an electrocution.

All of this, of course, is tendentious if not agonized interpretation that may not exactly dovetail with the unflappability and serenity one associates with the art of Edgar Doctor.

But as "Mixed Bag" shows, Doctor the artist could also be Doctor the clinician, the experimenter, and the mood artist. Perhaps we have pigeonholed him too early, so that Edgar Doctor shows he has still tricks up his sleeve to surprise and shock us.

**Edgar Doctor's "Mixed Bag" opens on Oct 30 at the R1 Corridor of Power Plant Mall, Rockwell. The exhibit is mounted by Yellow Door Gallery. Call 09209624347 or e-mail info@yellowdoorgallery.net**



'MAYAMAN Dagat '07'

### PowerShot A460

- 5.0 Megapixels
- 5.08 cm (2.0") LCD screen
- 4x Optical Zoom
- DIGIC II engine

PhP 9,990

**NEW! PhP 8,950\***

### PowerShot A550

- 7.1 Megapixels
- 5.08 cm (2.0") LCD screen
- 4x Optical Zoom
- DIGIC II engine

PhP 14,450\*

**NEW! PhP 13,500\***

### PowerShot A560

- 7.1 Megapixels
- 6.35 cm (2.5") LCD screen
- 4x Optical Zoom
- DIGIC III engine

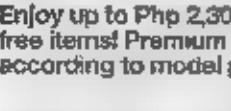
PhP 15,950\*

**NEW! PhP 14,500\***

### PowerShot A570 IS

- 7.1 Megapixels
- 6.35 cm (2.5") LCD screen
- 4x Optical Zoom
- Optical Image Stabilizer

PhP 18,950

**NEW! PhP 13,950\***

Enjoy up to PhP 2,300 worth of free items! Premium items vary according to model purchased

### PowerShot A720 IS

- 8.0 Megapixels
- 6x Optical Zoom
- 6.35 cm (2.5") LCD screen
- Optical Image Stabilizer

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### PowerShot SX100 IS

- 8 Megapixels
- 6.35 cm (2.5") LCD screen
- 10x Optical Zoom
- Optical Image Stabilizer

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### PowerShot A650 IS

- 12.1 Megapixels
- 6x Optical Zoom
- 6.35 cm (2.5") Vari-angle LCD screen
- Optical Image Stabilizer

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### PowerShot TX1

- 7.1 Megapixels
- 3.81 cm (1.5") Vari-angle LCD screen
- 10x Optical Zoom with Optical Image Stabilizer
- DIGIC III engine

**NEW! PhP 19,950\***

### PowerShot S5 IS

- 8.0 Megapixels
- 6.35 cm (2.5") Vari-angle LCD screen
- 12x Optical Zoom
- Optical Image Stabilizer

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### PowerShot G9

- 12.1 Megapixels
- 7.62 cm (3.0") PureColor LCD screen
- 6x Optical Zoom
- Optical Image Stabilizer
- RAW Image Recording

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### Digital IXUS 860 IS

- 8 Megapixels
- 7.62 cm (3.0") PureColor LCD screen
- 8x Optical Zoom
- Wide Angle 28-105mm lens

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### Canon

THE WORLD OF CANON

**0%**  
interest  
for  
12 mos.\*

### DIGITAL IXUS

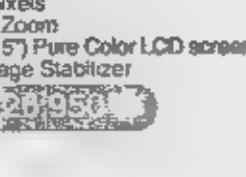
Where style meets substance



### Digital IXUS 70

- 7.1 Megapixels
- 6.35 cm (2.5") PureColor LCD screen
- 6x Optical Zoom
- Optical Image Stabilizer
- Slimmer Body - 19.4 mm

PhP 18,950\*

**NEW! PhP 16,500\***

### Digital IXUS 75

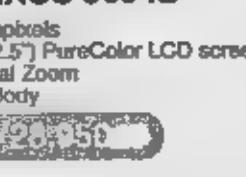
- 7.1 Megapixels
- 7.62 cm (3.0") PureColor LCD screen
- 6x Optical Zoom
- Slimmer Body - 19.8 mm

PhP 22,500\*

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### Digital IXUS 950 IS

- 8.0 Megapixels
- 4x Optical Zoom
- 6.35 cm (2.5") Pure Color LCD screen
- Optical Image Stabilizer

**NEW! PhP 19,500\*****NEW! PhP 16,500\***

### Digital IXUS 860 IS

- 8 Megapixels
- 7.62 cm (3.0") PureColor LCD screen
- 8x Optical Zoom
- Wide Angle 28-105mm lens

**NEW! PhP 19,500\*****NEW! PhP 16,500\***

Enjoy the Holidays with  
FREE ITEMS worth up to PhP 10,000!

FREE ITEMS: camera case, 1GB SD card and 1 pair of Ray-Ban eyewear

### METRO MANILA

- Samson Optical (SM Mall of Asia)
- The Optical Shop (Robinsons Ermita)
- The Optical Shop (SM Centerpoint)

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY CP750

- Large 6.35cm (2.5") LCD
- Battery operable
- Easy to use card slot
- Accommodates infrared high speed communication

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY ES20

- Dye-sublimation technology
- More creative printouts
- Integrated ink and paper
- My Colors Function
- ID photo printing

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY ES1

- Dye-sublimation technology
- Creative printouts (4 sets)
- integrated ink and paper
- Infrared

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### MANDALUYONG

- Canon Customer Care Centre
- Liberty Center, Freedom Plaza Retail Row, G/F Jml 1 and 2 Shaw Boulevard

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY CP740

- 5.08cm (2") LCD
- Easy to use card slot
- Red eye color correction
- Addition of borderless layouts

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY Photo Diary and Scrapbook

by Kurt ON

- SELPHY bag
- SELPHY Photo Diary and Scrapbook

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY bag

- SELPHY bag

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY bag

- SELPHY bag

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY bag

- SELPHY bag

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY bag

- SELPHY bag

**NEW! PhP 19,500\***

### SELPHY bag

- SELPHY bag

## LIFESTYLE

**Our painted moment**

By Gary C. Devilles  
Contributor

**TO SEE THE WORKS OF LUNA, HI**  
dalgo, Amorsolo, Fabian de la Rosa, Edades, Francisco, Mansala, Tabuena, Legaspi, Knukok, or Joya in one exhibit is to see how the masters of Philippine visual arts have imagined the nation in the 20th century—a time of wars and devastation, and a time ironically of burgeoning aesthetics and philosophy. Our experience of modernity is not without contradiction since it is an exciting time of limitless possibilities of the visual world but fraught as well by poverty and squalor.

Poet Charles Baudelaire declares the transitory and contingent character of modernity that comprises half of art for which the other half is the immutable. In these works of the masters the imagined nation or to wit, *imagi/nation*, is precisely the fleeting image of who and what we are along with our decadence or limitation and the yearning for eternity.

For its second anniversary, Choice Expression Gallery, with Alay sa Bansa Center for Formation Research and Development mounts the exhibit "Maestro" which, aside from the works of the artists above, also features works of Abueva, Elizalde Navarro, Imao, Cabrera, Magsaysay-Ho, Sagud, Saprid, Alcuaz, Castrillo and Orlina.

"Maestro" is a fundraising activity for the training and formation of public-school principals all over the country.

In bringing teachers and artists together, the exhibit becomes a learning opportunity for all. Artworks are pedagogical tools.

Amorsolo's rural scenes, for example, assume a symbolic value with idealized peasant folks, stalwart youths and ever smiling maidens. With the incipient influence of Impressionism according to critic Alice Guillermo, Amorsolo's warm tones capture the vibrant tropical sunlight which not only describes our country but somehow portrays our promising enlightenment.

Amorsolo's "The Burning of Idols" becomes the iridescent moment in our history. When surrendering our pagan past, we enter a world complicated by new forms of social relations and modes of production. Perhaps for Amorsolo, time teaches us that history is a series of dialectic movement and the burning of idols is just one of that series toward the growth of our collective consciousness.

He knew perhaps that his art would not go unchallenged and, indeed, in the early decades of modernism, Guillermo claims that artists would value expressiveness, make room for the terrible and ugly, and expand the subject matter of art into contemporary concerns.

Romeo Tabuena, José Joya and Federico Alcuaz are among the few who would carry the mantle of this modernist challenge. According to critic Rodolfo Paras-Perez, Tabuena's images are the logical extensions and amplifications of the motifs taken up by the so-called Neo-Realist group in the Philippines.

With his Philippine scenes, Tabuena depicts sights of remembered and dreamed things, where carabaos, for instance, appear weightless, lost in the midst of indeterminate atmosphere or driven by nameless men with undefined visages. Tabuena reconstitutes reality into a plastic structure with an idiom that is undoubtedly Cubistic.

Hence in his "Simbahang" and "Vendor" with geometric faces, chiseled bodies and fragmented images, our history explodes its linearity to multi-angular views and becomes a poetic revolution in the process.

Joya tried to reach out to provincial universities and schools and introduce art appreciation to Sapang Palay and Tondo. Joya would not only influence young painters but radicalize his art by introducing gestural painting in a number of large canvases in the 1960s but later would shift to compositions of rounded overlapping shapes in



"BURNING of the Idols"  
by Fernando Amorsolo

harmonious hues.

Guillermo notes how abstract landscapes allusive of forms of the natural environment would be a recurring theme in Joya, using textures such as sand-and-rice paper collages with Asian influences like mandala concepts and Chinese calligraphy.

Alcuaz would later combine the gestural

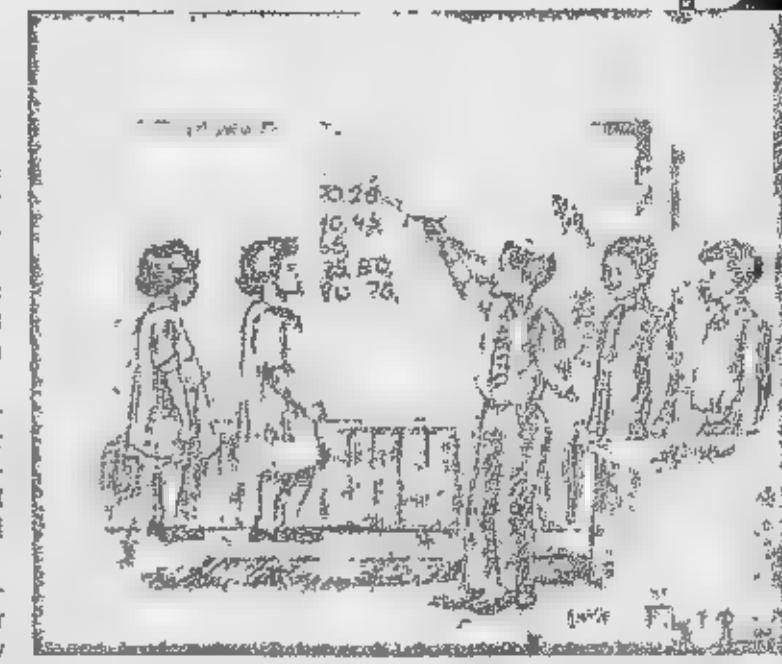
verve of Joya with surrealism and although he would be known as a sort of epic troubadour of the urban landscape, he depicts the splendor of a city.

His works eschew the intimacy often characteristic of Amorsolo's since details are not singled out but suggested with a sense of totality or gestalt.

Joya once said that in creating an artwork, the artist is concretizing his need for communication, for "artist has an irresistible urge to reach that level of spiritual satisfaction and to project what he is and what he thinks through his work."

Whether this spiritual satisfaction started with the caves of Lascaux or even in our own Mannungul jars, artists are definitely the teachers or "maestros" pointing to that elusive moment of a country waiting to be born and people in search of heroes and models for these trying times.

A silent auction for seven prime pieces will be on Oct. 30 in Choice Expression Gallery, Doña Consolacion Bldg., 122 Jupiter St., Bel-



"MAESTRO."  
by Fabian de la Rosa

Air, and Board Room at 7/F Pioneer House, 108 Paseo de Roxas and Legaspi St. The exhibit of the entire collection will open Nov. 7 at the North Court Lobby of Power Plant Mall, Rockwell, Makati. Call 8990718 and 0928-5065719

**OLYMPUS'**

[www.olympus.com](http://www.olympus.com)

**HOW DO YOU SW?**

Introducing the Olympus μ 790 SW. With the ability to snap underwater shots at up to 3 metres deep without an underwater casing, operate at chilling temperatures of up to -10°C and brush aside 1.5 metre falls, the μ 790 SW opens a whole new world of possibilities.

• 1.5M SHOCKPROOF(5ft) • 3M WATERPROOF (10ft) • -10°C FREEZEPROOF



STILL life by José Joya

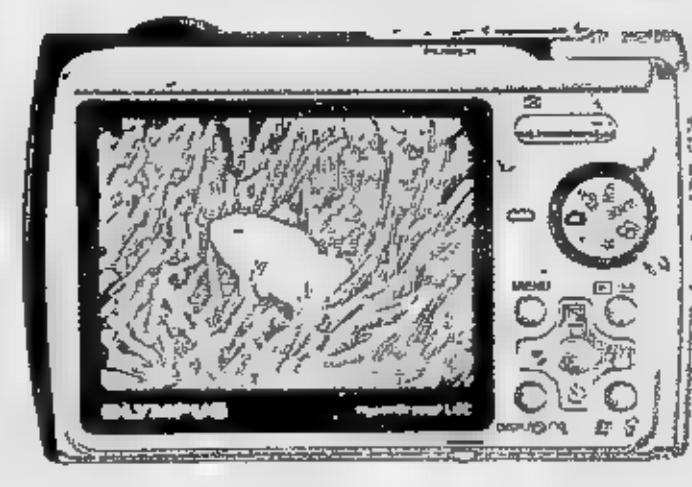


"GOBLET and Lemons," by Federico Alcuaz

Available in 5 different colours:  
Silver/Black, Blue, Orange  
and Lime Green



\*\*In stock only

**New! μ 790 SW**

Buy cameras from Authorized Dealers and avail of 1 year warranty, plus special promos.

For inquiries, call 724-3340 (local 1209)

METRO MANILA RESELLERS  
• Accent Micro 424-9829 • Automatic Centre 729-6450 lo 51 • Camera Haus 524-4804 • Complink 820-9140 • Camerasure 5216904 • Electroworld 758-2315/812-3880 • New Canary 727-0792  
• Octagon 526-7162 • PC Corner 631-8786 • Photoline 752-8200 • Photoware Midg 733-4589 • Premium Logic 637-0390 • Silicon Valley 633-1723 to 24 • SM Appliances 618-1178  
• Solid Triangle 833-9131 loc. 102 • Techwest 752-8275 • Wilman 458-8080 PROVINCIAL RESELLERS • Accentsmicro-Cebu (032) 232-0461 • All Electronics • Legazpi (052) 480-8011  
• Audionet-Cebu (032) 416-1112 • Cagayan Photo • Cagayan De Oro (086) 857-5766 • Colorshot Developing Center • Agusan Del Sur (065) 830-1109 • Colours digitalfoto • Cebu (032) 222-3249  
• Concept-ilo-ilo (032) 337-7221 • Cyberlink-ilo-ilo • (033) 336-3675 • Dagupan Photo King • Dagupan (075) 515-4069 • EDS • Tacloban (053) 321-9855 • Electroworld-Cebu (032) 233-4739  
• Gensan Perfect Image • Gen. Santos (083) 553-9000 • Iligan-Tacloban (053) 523-5000 • IECC-Bacolod (034) 433-4066 • Junix-Cebu (032) 233-3331 • Laser Mktg • Baguio (074) 442-8275  
• Mark Jollig • Tuguegarao (078) 844-8649 • Max Photo • Baguio (074) 442-8515 • Nutech • Cebu (032) 254-0391 • Perfect Star • Cebu (032) 412-9991 • Photo Studio • Baguio (074) 442-3521  
• POS Mktg • Bacolod (034) 433-0334 • Power Station-Davao (082) 224-8636 • Silicon-Cebu (032) 234-0219 • Unipace • Cagayan De Oro (086) 227-2660 • Witelcom • Davao (082) 224-5741



2006 WINNERS. Jurors' Choice awardee Danilo de los Reyes Jr.; Philip Morris managing director Chris J. Nelson; grand-prize winner Maria Victoria Abaño; Jurors' Choice awardees Demetrio de la Cruz, Rodelio "Tot" Cerdá and Cris Villanueva Jr.



RECIPIENTS of the Philip Morris coffee-table book: corporate affairs director Bayen Eloro; National Artist Ben Cabrera; Metropolitan Museum trustee Rita Ledesma; Philippine Star president Kevin Belmonte; Philip Morris managing director Chris Nelson; artist Ramon Diaz of Galleria Duemila; National Artist Abdulmari Imao; and art historian/critic Rodolfo Paras-Perez.

## Regional art contest winners bared soon

**P**HILIP MORRIS PHILIPPINES manufacturing Inc. (PMP-MI), sponsor of the Philippine Art Awards (PAA), is set to announce the first batch of winners from the recently concluded regional selections for Metro Manila and Luzon at the Museum of the Filipino People.

Starting this year, the PAA has been made much wider and grander as a two-tiered, bi-annual event involving four Philippine regional competitions—Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Ten equal winners are selected from each of the regional-level competition.

All of the 40 regional winners will then move on to compete in the national-level competition in February 2008.

Each of the regional winners will receive P40,000 and a trophy.

For the national finals, the grand-prize winner will get P350,000 and five Juror's Choice will each receive P120,000.

The national winners for 2008 will be treated to an all-expense paid trip to Hanoi, Vietnam, one of ASEAN's fast-growing art markets.

"The consistent response of artists to our call of entries over the years, and their confidence on the credible judging process and museum standards effected in handling of their entries, have contributed to the decision of Philip Morris to continue improving the Awards," says Philip Morris public affairs and communications manager Dave Gomez.

All 20 winning works from Metro Manila and Luzon, which have been selected from a collective pool of almost 400 entries by this year's two panels of judges will be featured in a month-long exhibition at the National Museum.

Managing director Chris Nelson says "Philip Morris has supported the arts worldwide for the past 50 years. Rest assured that in the Philippines, our company will continue to support the arts since we acknowledge that this is unique way for a society to define, express and understand its experience. It is our commitment to introduce innovations to encourage Filipino visual artists to raise the standard and quality of their art."

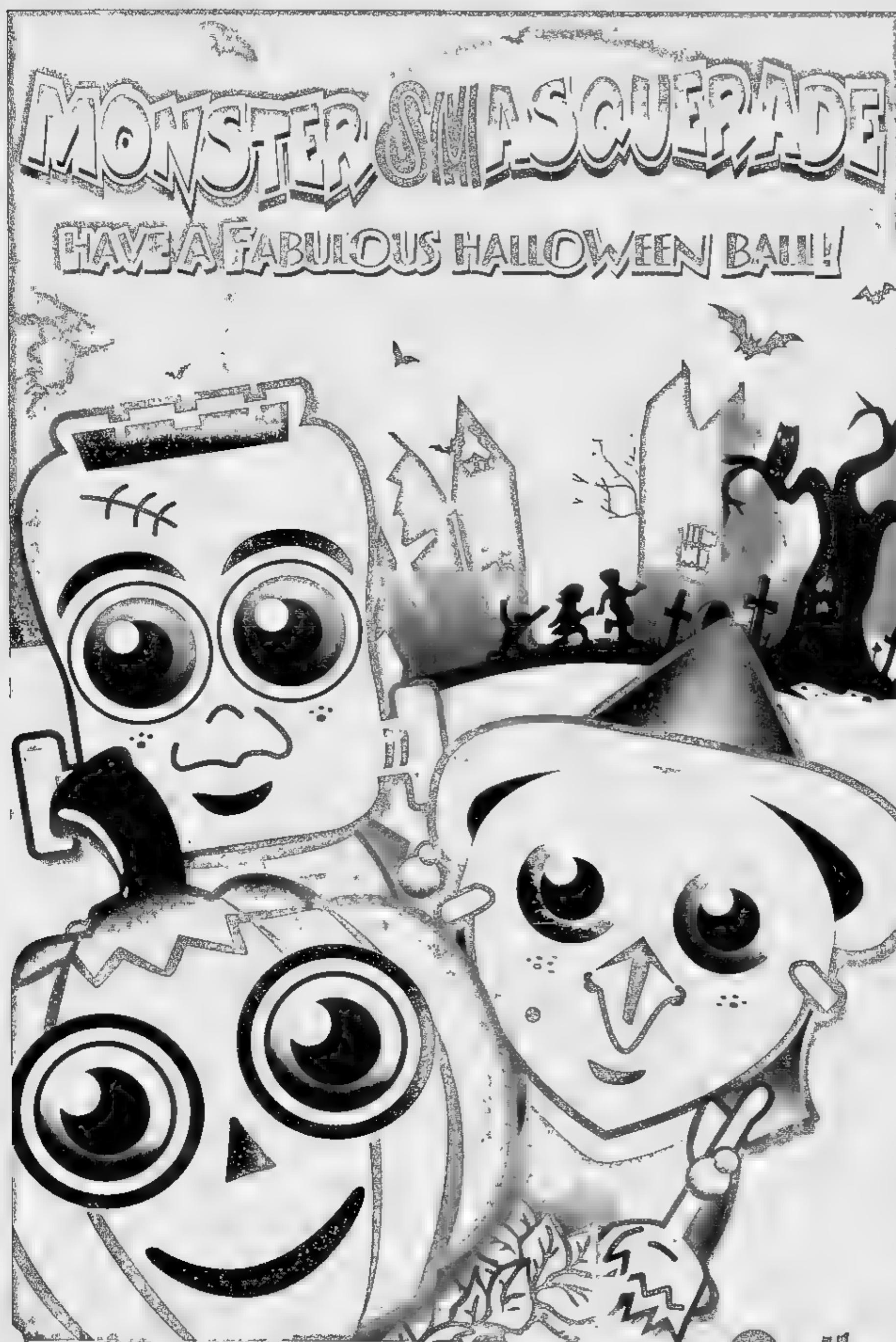
Now celebrating its 12th season, the Philippine Art Awards has maintained its stature as one of the Philippines' preeminent contemporary two-dimensional art competition and exhibition.

## Manuel at MOA

ADRIAN JAY MANUEL MOUNTS his fourth one-man show, "Composites," featuring textured abstractions that incorporate the use of different media creating an innovative artform, in which colors and sizes can form composite groups. The exhibit runs until Oct. 31 in Artes Orientes Gallery, SM Mall of Asia. Call 0917-5230877 or 5560590.



"COMPOSITE CIII," by AJ Manuel



### Costume Contest

Come in your most fabulous Halloween Costume!

October 31-Wednesday

10AM-1PM Registration (for walk-in applicants)

2PM Contest Proper

See mechanics poster.

### Trick Or Treat

Visit participating stores for special treats!

October 31-In all malls

10AM-2PM and 5PM-7PM

**SM**  
SUPERMALLS

See mechanics poster.

Print MORE.  
Save MORE.

PIXMA iP1880  
Exceptional  
printing quality  
for only Php 2,495

PIXMA

MONDAY,  
OCTOBER 29, 2007

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

# LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at [lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph)

Websites [www.inquirer.net/lifestyle](http://www.inquirer.net/lifestyle)

Text us your feedback:  
[inquirer.life.name/age/city/message](http://inquirer.life.name/age/city/message) to  
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Do MORE  
for less than the cost of this newspaper.  
Print, Scan and Copy for only Php 4,295.

PIXMA MP145

Based on a DSU Standard  
12 min print time per sheet

Canon

# Musical feast for Sta. Isabel anniversary



By Pablo A. Tariman  
Contributor

SANTA ISABEL COLLEGE observed its 375th year anniversary with a special recital of one of its outstanding graduates, pianist Cristine Coyuto, who earned her degrees in Piano and Music Education with singular honor as one of the school's very best magna cum laude.

The school started as a school for girls in 1631 under the supervision of Spanish nuns. Later it opened its doors to Filipino girls as well. It got its name by a royal decree of Queen Isabella II.

In 1864, the Daughters of Charity took over the school, which was then in Intramuros, at the present Fair Avenue address courtesy of Msgr. Vicente Laya (then rector of the San Miguel Parish), who offered some rooms in the convent so that the apostolate of educating young girls would continue. Its first Filipino superior was Sr. Candida Ocampo, DC.

Its music program (Master of Music, Master of Music in Arts Education, and Bachelor of Music) was later opened to boys. In 1870, the school moved to its present Fair Avenue address courtesy of Msgr. Vicente Laya (then rector of the San Miguel Parish), who offered some rooms in the convent so that the apostolate of educating young girls would continue. Its first Filipino superior was Sr. Candida Ocampo, DC.

Its music program (Master of Music, Master of Music in Arts Education, and Bachelor of Music) was later opened to boys.

In her latest recital at the CCP Little Theater, Coyuto once again incorporated the rarely played Lyric Pieces by Edward Grieg, whose 100th death anniversary is being observed this year.

On the whole, it was a challenging, if mind-boggling, pro-

gram consisting of Handel's Chaconne in G Major, HWV 43, and Rachmaninoff's Six Moments Musicaux, Op. 16, and Sonata in G Minor, Op. 19, the latter closing the program with celist Antoni Josef Inacay.

The Handel opener—based on an eloquent theme and followed by 21 variations, seven of them in minor key—easily defined the pianist as an eloquent interpreter of music in the Baroque period. She was able to bring out the piece's wide range of colors and the formidable demands of the piece. To her credit, she was able to sustain that fire throughout the entire program.

Grieg's Lyric Pieces Coyuto delineated with musical insight, and here one was ushered into the composer's musical influences (Chopin, Schumann, Liszt and Mendelssohn) and his favorite people and events.

With the exception of the first set and opuses, Grieg tended to reflect the musical styles of Chopin and Schumann; he seems as if struggling to shed off the influences of Mendelssohn and Debussy.

The tough technical demands of Rachmaninoff's Six Moments Musicaux, Op. 16, were obvious in the six sections of the piece, and here Coyuto showcased the rhythmic tones needed to project the opus.

If Coyuto tended to be highly lyrical in the Grieg number, she faced a strenuous keyboard battle in the initial Rachmaninoff number with its demands for virtuosic supremacy. She made it unspectacular but it was obvious the piece had demanded an in-

MUSICAL/E3

Pianist  
Cristine  
Coyuto  
handles well a  
challenging, if  
mind-boggling,  
program

The radiance of perfection  
The potency of Men's Care  
Anti-Age, Anti-Wrinkle, Valentine  
Lingerie

SONY

Sony recommends Windows Vista® Business

## THE Latest Arrival VAIO SZ Series

Centuno  
Duo



All you need for style and substance.  
The SZ series is the synergy of outstanding features:  
• Microsoft Office® Professional Plus  
• Intel® Centrino™ Processor Technology, the latest  
• Dual Hard Disk Drive, Sony Clear Bright™ Graphics  
technology and enhanced security.  
• 13.3" wide Clear Bright™ LCD offers optimum display for  
efficient business or entertainment use.  
Mobile performance has rarely been refined.

Available in Official VAIO Outlets now.

First Pinnacle TRADING CORPORATION  
416-52-18  
[www.firstpinnacle.com.ph](http://www.firstpinnacle.com.ph)  
[sales@firstpinnacle.com.ph](mailto:sales@firstpinnacle.com.ph)

TEAKWOOD Bedframe and Mattress  
TEAKWOOD Bedsets  
Adirondack Chair  
Daybed  
Deck Chair  
Teakwood Side Chairs  
Teakwood Park Benches  
Square Table Round Table Park Bench Round  
Visit our Showroom!  
3rd Level, PLAZA Market Market  
Quezon City  
729-50-93 373-97-97 Loc. 139

(02) 878-7600  
[info.sph@ap.sony.com](mailto:info.sph@ap.sony.com)



like.no.other™

MANILA • Bonifacio High Street • Digital Solutions Plaza Makati • Makati Greenbelt 3 • Electroworld Park Square • QUEZON CITY • Sony Square Gateway Mall • Sony Square TriNoma • Electroworld TriNoma • MANDALUYONG • Sony Square Megamall • Sony Square Shangri-La Plaza • Digital Solutions Plaza Araneta Center • Electroworld Megamall • TCA Megamall • MANILA • Sony Square Manila (Robinson's Place) • TCA Mall of Asia CANTINA • Digital Solutions Plaza Alabang Sta. Lucia

VAIO  
no more bounds

NAGAYA  
the healthy  
CRUNCH

0% TRANSFAT  
CHOLESTEROL  
CRACKER NUTS

A diario novela by CARLO J. CAPARAS

**To have to hold**

Art: ARNEL A. AVETRIA

**ATOMO AND WEBBOY**

BY LYRA GARCELLANO

A. LIPIN



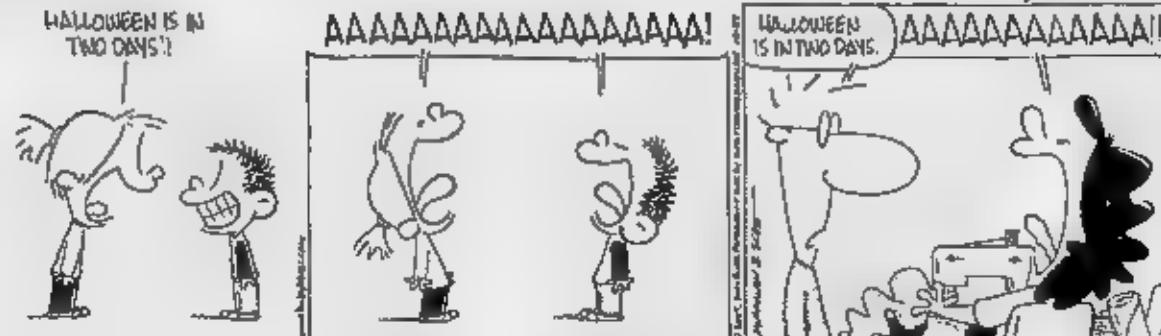
BY ESS ABRERA

**PUGAD BABOY**

BY PM JUNIOR

**GARFIELD**

BY JIM DAVIS

**BABY BLUES**

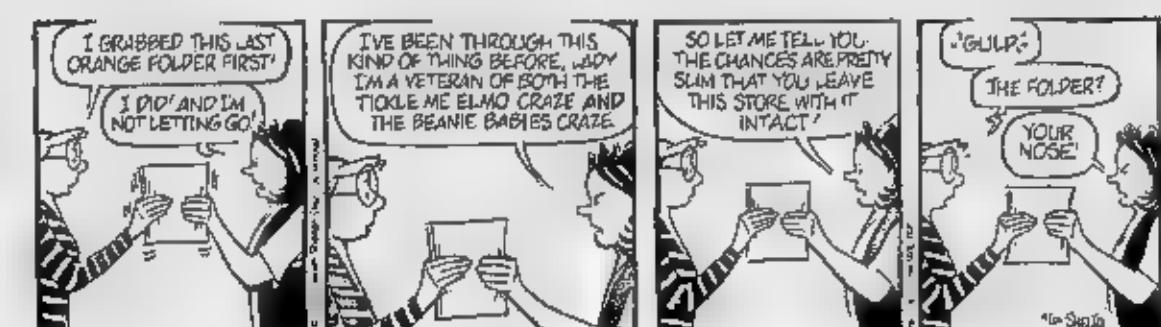
BY JERRY SCOTT

**LOVEKNOTS**

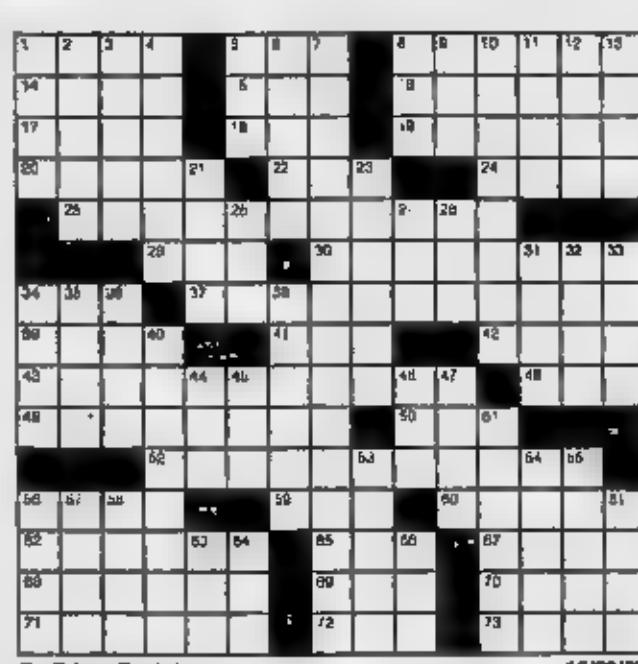
BY ELIZABETH CH. ONGLO

**KIKO MACHINE**

BY MANIX ABRERA

**BEN**

BY DANIEL SHELTON

**DAILY CROSSWORD**

By Edgar Fontaine Dighton, MA



**ACROSS**  
 1 Herring cousin  
 5 Gaping mouth  
 8 Jim Henson  
 9 creation  
 14 Bamako's land  
 15 Paid player  
 16 Off the ship  
 17 Israeli weapons  
 18 90 degrees  
 19 Longs (for)  
 20 Salami choice  
 22 H.S. math  
 24 Date a date  
 25 1857 Braves  
 pitcher  
 29 Angler's entangler  
 30 Sweet talker  
 34 Roundball org.  
 37 1989 A's  
 pitcher  
 39 Jason's ship  
 41 Exist  
 42 "Trista" poet  
 43 1993 Blue Jay  
 OH  
 46 Double curve  
 49 Pod  
 50 Granois morsel  
 52 1980 Phillies  
 third baseman  
 56 Spreadsheet  
 filer  
 58 Dallas sch.  
 60 Unadorned  
 62 Hit the big time  
 65 Type of home  
 loan abbr.  
 67 Word on diet  
 foods  
 68 Was in charge  
 of  
 69 Pressure unit  
 Building wings  
 71 Backslid  
 72 Birth certificate  
 info  
 73 Some whiskies  
  
**DOWN**  
 1 Insularly  
 complacent  
 2 Witch  
 3 Skirt shape  
 4 Prevent from  
 Inheriting  
 5 Velocity meas.  
 6 Bellowing

**HOROSCOPE**

**YOU BORN TODAY:** You're highly original; you bring a new approach to activities that involve you. If you're enthused about something, you have no trouble persuading others to climb on you, bandwagon. (In this way, you can become quite influential.) You're logical and intelligent. You work well with others. An important choice awaits you this year. Choose wisely.

**Birthday of:** Richard Dreyfuss, actor; Winona Ryder, actress; Dan Castellaneta, voice actor

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19): Whatever you do with close friends and partners today (either sharing time or talking) will be productive in a practical way. You want to see how much you can get done.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20): Mundane, routine work will not deter you today. You're ready to roll up your sleeves and get something done. Working with pet-related activities will be rewarding.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20): Some of you are dealing with the responsibilities of children. It's a good day to give young people advice. Romantic discussions are serious as well.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22): Discussions with or about parents will be productive today. Someone wants to feel more secure about his or her future, and you might be the one to help make this happen.

**LEO** (July 23 to Aug. 22): This is a good day to do some serious thinking or have serious discussions with siblings and relatives. You might want to explore where future avenues will lead.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): If shopping today, you'll buy something practical that will last for a long time. You'll avoid anything that's wasteful or frivolous. And you'll love a bargain!

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): What interests you most today are practical events and situations. You don't feel frivolous. You want to work hard to accomplish something because you want some solid results.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Most Scorpios have excellent concentration and focus. But today, your ability to research something is quite amazing. You rock!

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Someone older or wiser might have good advice for you today. It certainly doesn't hurt to listen. Sometimes good tips come from surprising sources.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): It's almost as if you have a second chance to give serious thought to your life direction. Discussions with bosses, parents or anyone who is older or more experienced than you will be helpful.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): It's easy to make future plans today—especially related to travel, dealing with foreign countries, publishing, the media and anything having to do with medicine and the law. You're taking a long-range view of your life.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to March 20): This is an excellent day to discuss the wealth and resources of others, or perhaps how you might want to divide something with someone. You're in a sensible frame of mind!

**CONCEPTIS SU DOKU**

By Dave Green

1	2	4							
7		2							
6	3	1							
			5	8					
4			3	5	4				
1	2	5							
2	4		6	7	1				
7	5	6		1	8				
			7	4	3				

Difficulty Level ★

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles. All rights reserved. King Features Syndicate, Inc.

10/29

**HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU**

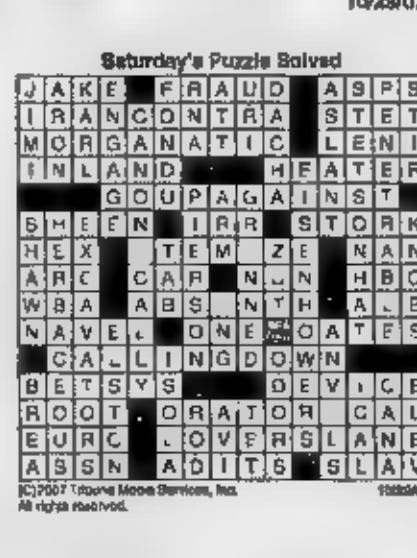
Answer to previous puzzle

4	5	8	9	3	7	1	6	2
3	6	9	1	8	2	5	7	4
2	7	1	6	4	5	9	8	3
1	3	5	7	9	8	2	4	6
7	9	4	3	2	6	8	5	1
8	2	6	5	1	4	3	9	7
6	8	7	2	5	3	4	1	9
5	1	3	4	7	9	6	2	8
9	4	2	8	6	1	7	3	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)



Saturday's Puzzle Balved  
 By Edgar Fontaine Dighton, MA  
 ©2007 Conceptis Puzzles. All rights reserved.

45 Grown acorn  
 46 Stunned  
 response  
 47 Cloveleaf part  
 51 Farm machine  
 53 Blaspheme  
 54 Seven times a  
 week  
 55 Earl or viscount  
 56 Willie Wonka's  
 creator  
 57 Vicinity  
 58 Ensnare  
 59 Capone undero  
 60 Churchill's sign  
 64 Actor Byrnes  
 66 Cowboy Tom  
 of ceters

BAKIT ASIWA ANG KALULUWANG IDO?  
 BAKA MASAMA ANG PAGKAMATAY NG KALULUWANG TAO NIYA NIYA  
 BAKIT MASAMA ANG LOOB MO?  
 HINDE PA PATAY ANG KALULUWANG TAO KO TAPOS NAGPATANGOS NG ILONG, NAGDAG-DAG NG DIIBIB ANG KALULUWANG TAO KO E... HINDI NA SIYA LAPAT SA AKIN!  
 ANG WRT OF AMBROSIA!

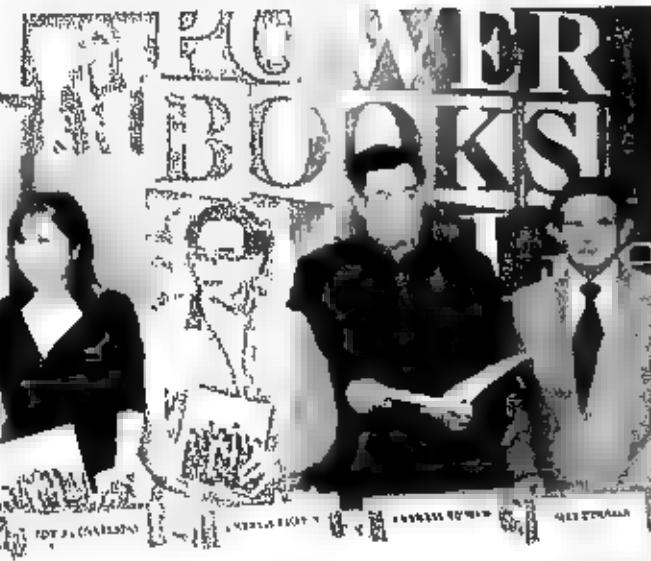


NATIONAL Book Store's Socorro Ramos



AUTHORS Rene Nieva, Pete Padre, Romy Virtusio, Joy Buensalido, Charlie Agatep, Frankie Roman and Max Edralin

## LIFESTYLE



AUTHORS Rene Nieva, Pete Padre, Romy Virtusio, Joy Buensalido, Charlie Agatep, Frankie Roman and Max Edralin

## Pioneer PRs tell their stories

A VIVID MEMOIR AND HOW-TO collection that helps part the curtains of a profession that is still scarcely understood as it is celebrated, "How to Make It in PR, PR Veterans Tell Their Stories," edited by Romeo Virtusio, was recently launched at PowerBooks Livet in Greenbelt 4.

PR pioneers Charlie A. Agatep, Joy L. Buensalido, Max J. Edralin, Rene E. Nieva, Pete A. Padre Jr., Virgilio Q. Pantaleon, Frankie S. Roman, Oscar S. Villadolid and Romeo P. Virtusio provide personal accounts of their careers through engaging, sometimes amusing stories of various standout campaigns, the mentors they've learned from, and the values they have lived by.

The collection also features a foreword by former J. Walter Thompson chair J.J. Calero, who says, "A great wealth of experiences is contained in these pages. This book is recommended for anyone who is in the

communications business."

Earlier, Context Communications and the International Public Relations Association (Ipra) Philippine Chapter (which counts six members among the authors) had done a mini-launch attended only by a few of the authors, their immediate families, J.J. Calero, and Ipra members Millie Dizon and Angel Lim-genco.

A bigger and public book launch was jointly sponsored by publisher Context Communications International Inc. and Ipra Philippine Chapter at PowerBooks, which was graced by National Book Store matriarch Socorro "Nanay" Ramos.

The event was well-attended by Ipra members such as Butch Raquel of GMA 7, also the president of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), Karen Vilamayva of Merck, Sharp & Dohme; Milen de Quiros of Full Circle Communica-

tions, Edd Fuentes of Fuentes Publicity Network Inc.; Richard Burgos of IBM Philippines, and Bobby Manzano.

Other notable public relations and communications practitioners present were Tessa Jazmines of Larc & Asset; Yoly Vilaneva-Ong of Campaigns & Grey; Jingjing Romero of Stratos; Noel Nieva of Perceptions; Suzette Defensor of First Foods Inc.

Other guests included family and friends of the authors such as Luu Virtusio; Arel and Dessa Virtusio, Audrey Agatep-General, Monique Agatep-Ignacio, Rose Padre, Linda Edralin-Boughton, Dr. Adrian Buensalido, Monique, Jocel and Jason Bjensalido, Geny Nieva, Oskie and Wendy Nieva; Ces Onrubia Jacinto, lawyer Dick Ferrer of Makati Medical Center; Flor Gozon Tarniel, Bille Tablante, Rowena Blas, Alice and Audie Orleans, Grace Lumawig, Gunter Moral, Leni and Camille Canillas, Christine Canillas-Roa; Kitten Perez and Chet Martinez of Figaro.

The book is available at PowerBooks and National Book Store. Call 7244774.



From page E1

ordinate number of exemplary tones from her.

## Young cellist

Coyiuto's other side as an excellent chamber musician came to the fore in Rachmaninoff's Sonata for Cello and Piano, with young cellist Inacay. It was an even partnership with the cello just as dominating as the piano, neither contradicting or competing with each other.

But the composer being a pianist himself, it did sound in some parts that the sonata had more defining moments for the piano than for the cello. Inacay had exemplary tones in the allegrato part and some ravishing lyrical moments in the andante section. On the whole, Coyiuto and Inacay achieved commendable balance.

As I was rushing to another appointment, I missed the encore numbers and the surprise appearance of the pianist's daughter, Caitlin Aisa, who played Bolting's Veloce from Part 7 of the Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano.

## Classical guitarist

Classical guitarist Alvaro Pierri's performances in Montreal got both popular and critical acclaim. He was soloist in Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez with the McGill Chamber Orchestra under Boris Brott.

Earlier, he appeared with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra under Charles Dutoit. La Presse Montreal noted a wonderful collaboration: "Pierri demon-



COYIUTO with cellist Antoni Inacay

strated not only perfect virtuosity but also extremely creative and nuanced interpretation."

Another critic, Leo Brouwer, noted Pierri had more musical ingredients to offer than Segovia and Bream, and declared "Pierri is a master of colors, a genuine innovator of interpretation."

This guitar master will be heard in Manila for the first time on Dec. 4 at the Philamlife Theater, courtesy of the Chopin Society of Hong Kong and the Philippine American Life Insurance Company. The same sponsors will bring in the much-awaited return engagement of Russian pianist Ilya Rashkovsky on Dec. 8 with an entirely new program inspired by dance.

For tickets, call 9007023 or 0906-5104270. Early-buyer discount is still available.

## Bach concert

"Back to Bach" featuring Bach concertos for one, two, three and four keyboards will be the attraction at the Francisco Santiago Hall, BDO South Tower, on Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Featured pianists are Naib Ismail, Peter Porticos, Mary Anne Espina, Marsha Nicolas, Naomi Sison, Julie Ann Hamzog, Jed Balsamo, Mary Anne Choco, Andrew Soriano, Helen Reyes and Allan de la Cruz.

Vienna-based pianist and conductor Aries Caces will lead the UST String Ensemble with Gina Medina as concertmaster. For tickets, call 7314022.

CLASSICAL guitarist Alvaro Pierri will perform in Manila in December.



# Continental breakfast

Europe served 75+ times a week

Where would you really like to start your day?

Now that Emirates flies to 22 European cities, even your selection of destinations is served.

• sunny-side up

Fly Emirates. Keep discovering.

[emirates.com/ph](http://emirates.com/ph)



Athene, Birmingham, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Glasgow, Hamburg, Istanbul, Larnaca, London Gatwick, London Heathrow, Malta, Manchester, Milan, Moscow, Munich, Newcastle, Nice, Paris, Roma, Venice, Vienna, Zurich. Over 80 destinations worldwide. For more details contact your local travel agent or Emirates on tel. (632) 859-5300 or fax (632) 811-5293.

Discover frequent flyer benefits at [flywards.com](http://flywards.com).

Rep restages  
*'Fiddler on the Roof'*

TO CELEBRATE ITS 40TH year, Repertory Philippines is restaging "Fiddler on the Roof" at Onstage Theater in Greenbelt 1, Makati City.

"It will be nostalgia for many Rep subscribers and there is a whole generation that hasn't seen this musical theater classic," says director Baby Barredo. "Also, the message that it sends is as relevant today as it was 30 years ago. Besides, the music is some of the most memorable written for the stage and deserves to be heard again, sung, live, by the warm and funny characters of the story."

Apparently both Broadway and West End feel the same way, because it has been revived over and over."

Rep will introduce Tyler Allan Strand as Tevye, the happy milkman and father of five daughters who sings the popular song "If I Were a Rich Man." Miguel Faustmann, one of Manila's finest actors, alternates with him.

Golde, his wife, will be played alternately by Joy Virtuoso and Pinky Marquez, both seasoned musical theater actresses.

Other roles will be played by rising young theater actors Nicco Manahan, Cris Vilanco, Vanessa Paolelli, Cara

Barredo, Felix Rivera and Hans Eckstein.

An exciting new talent, Siria Rutstein, makes her first appearance in Manila alternating with Samantha Sewell in the role of Tzeitel, the eldest daughter.

The leads will be supported by a strong ensemble of Rep actors, among them Jaime del Mundo, Bongboy Manahan, Oliver Usison and Boyd Timo. Violinist Farida Kabaya is The Fiddler. Barredo herself makes a cameo appearance as Yente the Matchmaker, alternating with Jay Gloroso.

Barredo and Robbie Guevara co-direct and Julie Borromeo choreographs.

The music will be played by the Manila Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Arturo Molina.

Rep's "Fiddler on the Roof," written by Joseph Stein with lyrics by Sheldon Harnick and music by Jerry Bock, runs Nov. 9-Dec. 16. Opening night will be sponsored by St. Joseph's College, where it all began for Rep 40 years ago.

For ticket information, prices and show dates, call 8870710 or visit [www.repertory-philippines.com](http://www.repertory-philippines.com). Tickets are also available at Ticket World (tel. 8919999).



From page E1

## 'El Filibusterismo' from Gantimpala Theater

**THE FINAL INSTALLMENT OF** Gantimpala Theater's Four Classics, "El Filibusterismo" based on National Hero José Rizal's novel and made into a play by Jomar Fleras, returns to the stage Nov. 4.

"El Filibusterismo" narrates the return of the protagonist

of "Noh Me Tangere," Crisostomo Ibarra, disguised as the wealthy jeweller Don Simoun (Roeder Camañag). Disillusioned by the abuses of the friars and government leaders, Ibarra abandons his beliefs in order to return to his hometown of San Diego and start a

bloody revolution.

The cast includes Perry Dizon (Don Custodio/Tata Selo), Jorge Cabullo (Don Tiago/Ben Zayb), Perry Escario (Kabesang Tales), Kimberly Diaz (Juif), Lani Tapia (Dona Victoria/Madre), Yutaka Yamakawa (Juanito Pelaez/Padre Irene), Bluemark Roccess

(Isagan) and Lailanie Anne Tejoco (Paulita Gomez), Jeffrey Camañag (Padre Camorra), Ronald Concepcion (Padre Fernandez) and Billy Parjan (Padre Salvi).

Sorcie Topacio directs, with Perry Dizon as assistant director, Roobak Valle as production de-

signer, Andy Villareal as lighting designer, Andrew Alcorta as stage manager and Pamela Hundana as production manager. Gantimpala artistic director is Tony S. Espejo.

Performances are on Nov. 4 (7 p.m.), Concert at the Park Open Air Auditorium, Luneta,

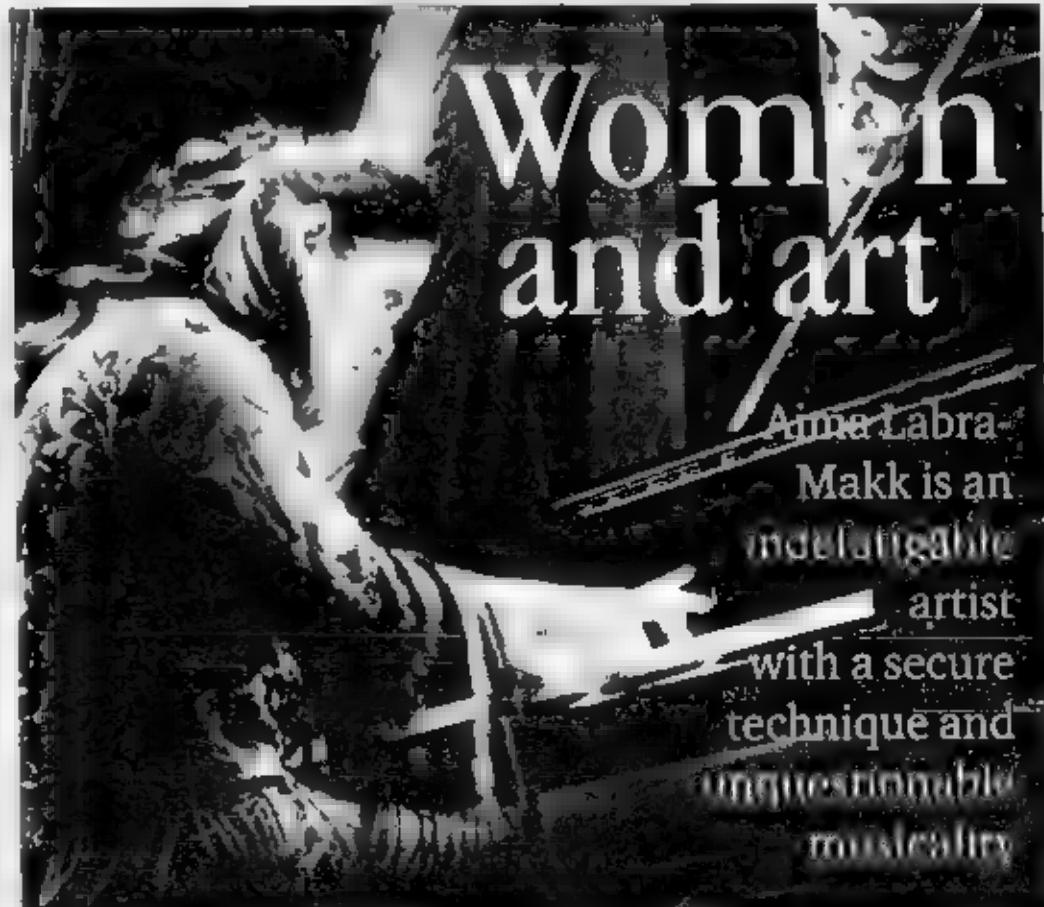
Manila; Nov. 9-11, 23-24 (10 a.m. and 2 p.m.), APP Theater, Quezon City, and Nov. 16-17 (SM Southmall Cinema 6, Las Piñas City).

Call 8995745 or 8963503 for tickets or e-mail gantimpalaproduction@yahoo.com.ph.



### PDI, RayBan to launch "You Could be the Next RayBan Rock Star"

The Philippine Daily Inquirer recently signed a memorandum of agreement with Branded Lifestyle Inc., distributor of RayBan in the Philippines to launch "You Could be the Next RayBan Rock Star." Present during the signing are Pepito Olarte, VP for Advertising of PDI, Rene Reinoso, SVP for Sales and Marketing, PDI, Mylene De Jesus, Sales Officer, PDI, Lal Gopwani, VP of Branded Lifestyle, and Devi Leano, assistant general manager of Branded Lifestyle.



By Allan Pastrana  
Contributor

**W**HEN, DURING THE ADVENT OF the Industrial Revolution, the piano took its place as one of the unmitigated symbols of the new century, the various schools of pianism came to the fore of diversity in performance.

A more curious division among pianists, however unfounded, is a gender-biased assumption which unfortunately some people are still inclined to believe.

A long time ago, I sat before my first live performance of the Piano Concerto in B Flat Minor (a staple Tchaikovsky) at the CCP. The featured soloist was a female pianist whose name escaped me, partly due to the impending disappointment I was to get during the entire concert, which was evident enough at the onset, in her opening chords against the blaring "tutti"—that is, if it ever truly reached my ears.

Ama Labra-Makk performed the same concerto years later, and anybody who saw it might have felt anything but short-changed. Despite the fact that the piano she used that night was an abomination, I am quite sure what I heard was as solid and powerful a playing as any male pianist I had ever heard.

#### Raw energy

Her most recent homecoming concert at the PCI Bank was no exception. The intuitive nature of her playing may easily be mistaken for careless abandon, but soon one notices this raw energy to be a proper channel for insight and exciting musicianship.

She started off with four Scarlatti sonatas, admirably performed in that characteristically simple elegance—concept-wise and sound-wise. This finds close representation in the quiet lyricism of András Schiff's Baroque renditions.

Though I usually prefer the rumbling, mechanical playing of a Gould or a Tureck, following that quasi-secco evocation closer to the tradition, Labra-Makk's was far from being just fine. What with that disciplined leggiero and a sound treatment of lines, it was a strong combination of beauty and intelligence.

Then there was Schubert's "Wanderer" Fantasy, which, surprisingly, is rarely performed, at least in this part of the world. There are probably only a handful of pianists who can pull off a Schubert with such economy of intention (because too much intention for me is mere pretense) and a nonchalant manner.

Romantic idiosyncrasies can be distasteful in Schubert, that she is much aware of. Her lyricism was perfectly tapered, the sound falling into place with an elegant ease that complements

her playing in the more virtuosic parts.

She opened the second part of her program with Rachmaninoff's Études-Tableaux, Op. 33. This is where the obvious marriage of technique and art manifests itself.

Naturally, these studies allow any performer to showcase that two-fold aspect of any aesthetic endeavor, and, Labra-Makk went through every piece with deftness and a clear concept of the desired sound and effect.

Admittedly, though, the level of intensity she started with got lost somewhere in the last number (the one in C-Sharp Minor), not necessarily dwindling to that unfortunate spot but somehow, rather unexpectedly, lacking the immediacy and vigor of her usual attack.

#### Unmatched

What more can the enthusiast ask for, when after all the pieces mentioned above were masterfully played (I daresay) by one of the few local pianists who might have truly deserved an "international" career, should decide to close her program with Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No. 3?

Here, Labra-Makk's energy was unmatched. That fiery playing was very much familiar as I suddenly remembered my first experience of her playing in a small concert at UST, at a time when I never thought anybody could play Liszt's "Dante" sonata the way she did it.

The sadistic tendency of an audience is not a myth at all. Kissin's endless encores in his BBC PROMS concert was never a myth.

Ama Labra-Makk is probably the most generous I've seen when it comes to encores. She could be doing a full program of more than considerable difficulty and still indulge the audience by playing Schubert-Liszt's "Soirées de Vienne: Valse-Caprice No. 6."

Since the audience was clamoring for more after her riveting rendition of the Prokofiev sonata, she played Liszt's "Tarantelle" from "Venezia e Napoli" then followed it with Chopin's posthumous Nocturne in C-Sharp Minor.

Ama Labra-Makk is an indefatigable artist with a secure technique and unquestionable musicality. Like a modern-day Scheherazade, she makes artistic communication a matter of patience and the almost necessary shock or stress thereafter, which renders the entire process capable of expressing consummate beauty as well as extraordinary genius.

I suddenly recalled Emily Dickinson's standard for judging literature, which fittingly describes the experience of watching this amazing pianist anytime: "If I feel physically as if the top of my head were taken off, I know that is poetry."



**Get a home loan with  
FREE 19" LCD HD-TV or  
a DIGITAL PHOTO FRAME  
with MP3 player.**

Apply now! Call 631-8000 or  
1-800-10-6318000 (Domestic Toll-Free)  
or visit the nearest BDO branch or  
BDO On-site

**COBY.**

Priming period: September 1 to December 31, 2007  
with 2% and 20% down equity. See terms for details.  
Per CIB, initial term rate is 4.234% versus 2.78%.  
Actual term may vary from quote shown. Depending on loan amount.

# ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

SMS feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) or email us at entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment

UNDERARM Hair  
Zap it with LaserLight!

Call Facial Care at 892-SKIN (7546)

## Sam has nothing more to say on Lolit exposé

SAM MILBY TEXTED ME ALL THE way from Canada regarding his rift with Lolit Solis: "I have nothing more to say. I've said my piece on TV. I just want to focus now on my tour here in Canada."

Sam is one of the most palabat celebs I've met. Whenever we happen to be in the same event, he would approach me just to say hi. So if Tita Lolit claims she saw Sam with Paolo at Sofitel, it's so out of character for Sam not to greet her at all.

Tita Lolit should have taken their pic with her cell phone camera for prima facie evidence. Prove it or move it. Pray tell, Sofitel!

### What's cooking?

Heard that beauty queen Josephine Cañonizado, who recently gave birth to her love child with a married action star, is now taking up culinary arts.

Is she planning to shift her business from a beauty parlor (financed by the action star) to a bistro? Or does she just want to whip up some fancy dishes for her paramour?

As they say, the best way to a man's heart is through his stomach. But how can his martyr-wife stomach all that?

### Guess who

A popular actor and a male modeling search winner are gymmies. People in the know insist that their closeness goes on behind closed doors.

Even before the model won the

DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

search, the actor already showed interest in him. Aside from burning calories together in the gym, could passion be burning between them too?

### Jampacked 'Flow'

Had a blast at the third anniversary

SAM/F4



Novellino, a romantic wine experience like no other.

Fall in love with its lusciously sweet character and its delightful finish --- soft, smooth and refreshing. Without the bitter taste

One sip... falling in love has never tasted this good.



**MTRCB RATING: R-13**

**HORROR'S BIGGEST GROSSING OPENING WEEKEND: 2007**

**UNMASK THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL**

**HALLOWEEN** 30,591,759

**DISTURBIA** 22,224,982

**1408** 20,667,667

**MESSENGERS** 17,713,321

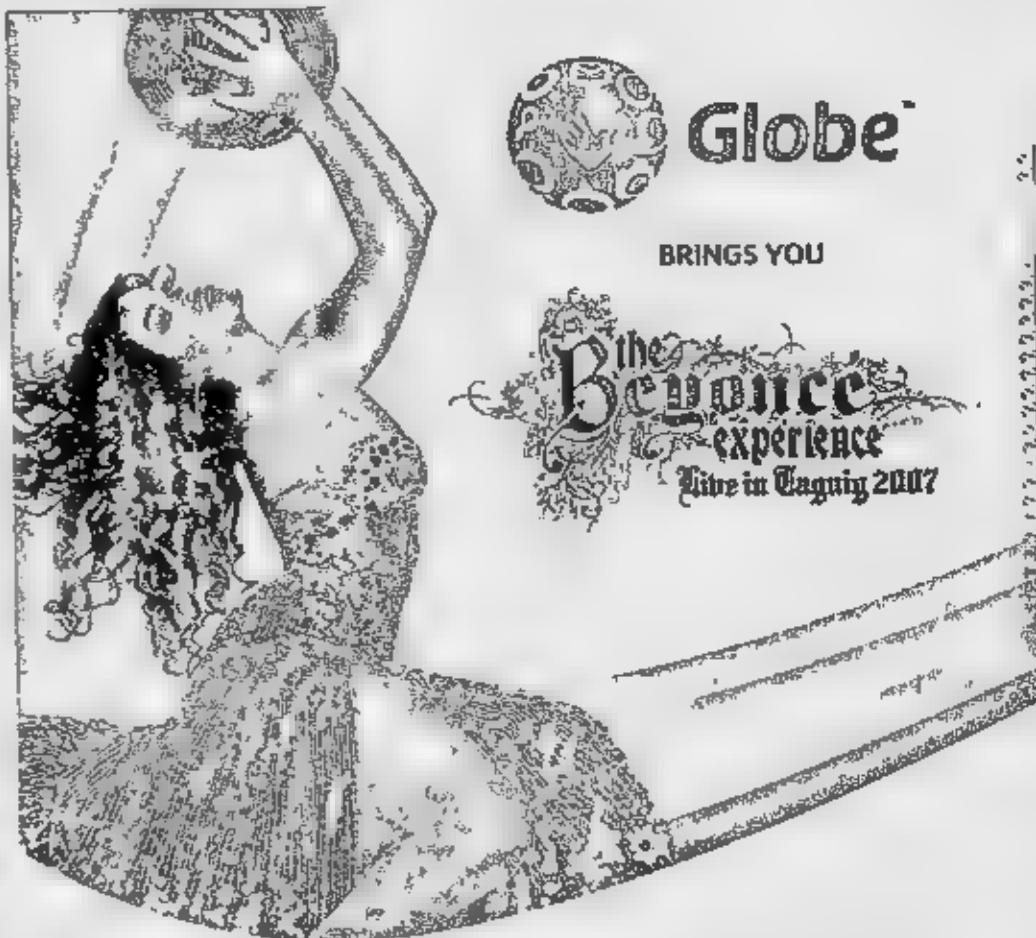
**30 DAYS OF NIGHT** 15,591,902

**28 WEEKS LATER** 9,807,292

**VIVA**

**A ROB ZOMBIE FILM**

**HALLOWEEN** OPENS OCTOBER 31



### Meet and Greet the Bootylicious Diva!

It's easy! Just download Beyoncé Wallpapers, Text Cards, Logos and Ringtones and you may be one of the 4 lucky winners to MEET and GREET BEYONCE and get 2 FREE tickets!

Plus, you may be one of the 10 winners of 2 BEYONCE EXPERIENCE tickets each.

#### Wallpapers



To download text W <keyword> to 2346 Ex. W beyoncebee \*P2o/wallpaper

#### Text Cards



To download text TC <keyword> to 2346 Ex. TC beyoncebee \*P1s/textcard

#### Logos



To download text L <keyword> to 2346 Ex. L beyoncebuzz \*P1g/logo

#### Ringtones

For Monotones: To download text N <keyword> to 2346 \*P1s/monotone  
For Polytones: To download text P <keyword> to 2346 \*P2o/polytone

TITLE	KEYWORD
Irreplaceable	irreplaceable
Crazy In Love	crazyinlove
Baby Boy	babyboy
Dile vu	dilevu
Naughty Girl	naughtylife
Beautiful Life	beautifullife
Check On It	checkonit

Register for FREE by texting BEYONCE REG Name\*Address\*Birth Year\*Gender to 2346  
Ex. BEYONCE REG Cecile De Leon Elm St. Little Baguio, San Juan 1976 F

For more info, text BK to 2222 for FREE.



SONY BMG

Music in this moment

Promo Period: October 26 - November 4, 2007.  
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5476. Series of 2007. See flyers for details.  
© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc.

## SNEAK PREVIEWS

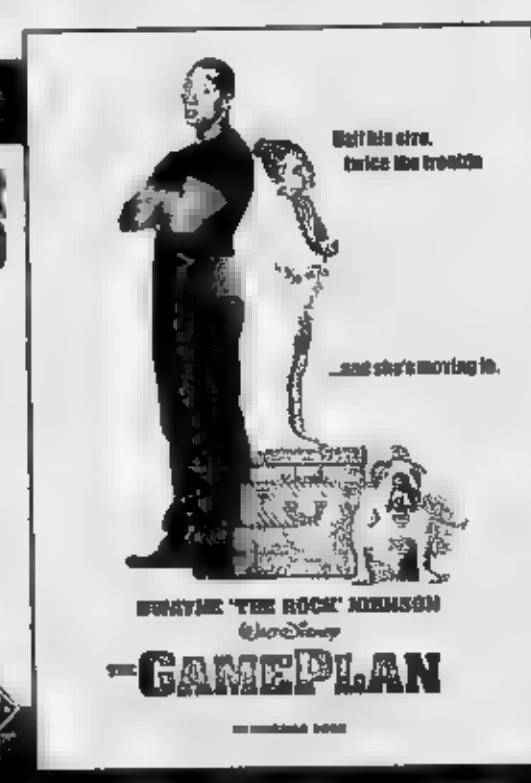
OCTOBER  
29 and 30

### ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

- Ermita • Pioneer
- Metro East • Naivalches
- Galleria

REGULAR Showing: November 7

MTRCB Rating: G (all ages admitted)



Come to the Greenhills Sessionistas and show your support as your favorite college bands jam with some of the country's hottest acts!

#### G-Strip Parking Area

The Launch Party on Oct. 26 with Sinosikat!, Julianne, Freestyle & Stonetree

#### Night Market Area

Jam Sessions on Nov 17 with Julianne, Sessionistas Showdown on Nov 23 with Sinosikat!, Grand Concert on Nov 30 with Freestyle

Also brought to you by

SMART

GREENHILLS Stop by and...

GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER

**SESSIONISTAS**

Konting Suporta ang mga t-song!



**movietime**  
SHOWTIME

VISIT WWW.SMCINEMA.COM  
Powered by WWW.YEHEY.COM

Your life as a movie

SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE

BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS



## The 11th Hour

THE 11TH HOUR describes the last minute when change is possible. This movie explores how business has evolved at this moment. Here we have to respect the Earth's ecosystems, and what we can do as citizens of our planet. Also, the film follows dialogue with experts from all over the world to introduce an over 50 leading scientists, thinkers and leaders who believe the time and climate are more important than ever now.

Written and produced by Leonardo DiCaprio  
Written and directed by Lori Coopers Peterson and Nelly Cota

### NOW SHOWING AT MEGAMALL

Screening Schedule:  
October 31 (Wednesday) at Manila  
November 7 (Wednesday) at San. Mateo

Movie Information:

96.3 WRCK YES!

97.9 FM COCA-COLA

## The 11th Hour

SM MALL OF ASIA

658-0104

**IMAX**

CHEP BEE 80 Administration Price: P250  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM + 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM  
Y-REX 20 Administration Price: P250  
4:00 PM

SPACE STATION Administration Price: P200  
6:00 PM

**RENDITION**

1 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

2 RESIDENT EVIL 3

3 MR. WOODCOCK

4 UNREST

5 THE GAMEPLAN

PREMIERE CINEMA

APAT DAPAT,  
DAPAT APAT

CENTERSTAGE

STAR DUST

DIRECTOR'S CLUB

Bookings now accepted. Call 658-2334.

**THE PODIUM**

6 THE GAMEPLAN  
CINEMA 2  
RENDITION

For ticket reservations, dial 633-8976  
All major credit cards accepted

SM NORTH EDSA 928-5452

1 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL  
2 RESIDENT EVIL 3

3 MR. WOODCOCK

4 STAR DUST

5 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

6 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

7 THE GAMEPLAN

8 RENDITION

9 OCTOBER FRIGHT FEST

10 KUNG FU FIGHTER

11 UNREST

12 NO RESERVATIONS

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901

1 RENDITION

2 STAR DUST

3 RESIDENT EVIL 3

4 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

5 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

6 THE GAMEPLAN

7 ROGUE ASSASSIN

8 KUNG FU FIGHTER

9 UNREST

10 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

11 11TH HOUR

12 OCTOBER FRIGHT FEST

13 THE GAMEPLAN

14 RENDITION

15 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

16 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

17 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

18 KUNG FU FIGHTER

19 OCTOBER FRIGHT FEST

20 THE GAMEPLAN

21 RENDITION

22 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

23 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

24 KUNG FU FIGHTER

25 UNREST

26 NO RESERVATIONS

SM CITY SAN JUAN 778-3055

1 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

2 THE GAMEPLAN

3 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

4 HIGHLANDER V

5 THE GAMEPLAN

6 RESIDENT EVIL

7 RENDITION

8 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

9 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

10 UNREST

11 RESERVED

12 STAR DUST

13 RENDITION

14 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

15 KUNG FU FIGHTER

16 RETRIBUTION

17 OCTOBER FRIGHT FEST

18 THE GAMEPLAN

19 RENDITION

20 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

21 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

22 KUNG FU FIGHTER

23 RETRIBUTION

24 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

25 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

26 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

27 THE GAMEPLAN

28 RENDITION

29 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

30 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

31 KUNG FU FIGHTER

32 RETRIBUTION

33 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

34 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

35 KUNG FU FIGHTER

36 RETRIBUTION

37 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

38 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

39 KUNG FU FIGHTER

40 RETRIBUTION

41 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

42 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

43 KUNG FU FIGHTER

44 RETRIBUTION

45 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

46 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

47 KUNG FU FIGHTER

48 RETRIBUTION

49 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

50 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

51 KUNG FU FIGHTER

52 RETRIBUTION

53 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

54 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

55 KUNG FU FIGHTER

56 RETRIBUTION

57 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

58 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

59 KUNG FU FIGHTER

60 RETRIBUTION

61 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

62 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

63 KUNG FU FIGHTER

64 RETRIBUTION

65 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

66 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

67 KUNG FU FIGHTER

68 RETRIBUTION

69 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

70 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

71 KUNG FU FIGHTER

72 RETRIBUTION

73 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

74 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

75 KUNG FU FIGHTER

76 RETRIBUTION

77 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

78 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

79 KUNG FU FIGHTER

80 RETRIBUTION

81 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

82 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

83 KUNG FU FIGHTER

84 RETRIBUTION

85 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

86 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

87 KUNG FU FIGHTER

88 RETRIBUTION

89 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

90 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

91 KUNG FU FIGHTER

92 RETRIBUTION

93 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

94 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

95 KUNG FU FIGHTER

96 RETRIBUTION

97 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

98 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

99 KUNG FU FIGHTER

100 RETRIBUTION

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2408

1 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL

MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP.

**#1 MOVIE IN AMERICA!**  
**\$24,168,865**

HIGHEST 3-DAY WEEKEND GROSS (Sept. 21-23)

**5TH WEEK**

We have witnessed the BEGINNING...  
We have seen the APOCALYPSE...  
Now we face EXTINCTION.

**STILL THE #1 MOVIE IN MANILA!**

**MILLA JOVOVICH**  
**RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION**

**GREEN HILLS CINEMAS**  
**THEATRE MALL**  
NOW SHOWING

**PROMENADE**  
NOW SHOWING

**3 GAMEPLAN**  
**4 RENDITION**  
**5 LUST CAUTION**

**MUSIC MUSEUM**  
November 3 - November 15  
November 15 - November 2007

**TEA TIME**  
Oct 31 - Nov 7 14 15  
21 22 28 29

**PROMENADE SCREENS**

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

**EASTWOOD CINEMAS**  
Digital  
NOW SHOWING

**BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL**  
**STARDUST**  
**LUST, CAUTION**

Enraged City Walk 2, Eastwood City  
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

687-6963  
GUARANTEED SEATS

MONT 12:45M 10:45M 7:45M 10:45M

1 1:15, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:05  
2 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:35  
R-13  
3 1:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:40  
PG-13  
4 1:25, 4:25, 7:45, 10:55  
R-10

**OPENS NOVEMBER 7**

MTRCB Rating **G** All Ages Admitted



MTRCB Rating **G** GENERAL PATRONAGE ALL AGES ADMITTED

**DAPAT MAG-ENJOY.**  
**DAPAT KALIMUTAN ANG PROBLEMA.**  
**DAPAT MONG PANOORIN.**  
**KAHIT DAPAT NA BESES AY SULIT PA RIN!**

Rafa Mae Quinto  
Eugene Domingo  
Pekwang  
Candy Pangilinan

**Apat Dapat**  
**DAPAT MAG-ENJOY**

**FRIENDS 4 LIFE AND DEATH**

Directed by WENNA DERAMAY

**STILL NO.1 NATIONWIDE ON ITS 4TH WEEK!**

**Regal** **EDZM** **MCX** **VIVA**

MTRCB Rating **R-13** No one below 18 years of age may be admitted

THE ACADEMY AWARDS® WINNER OF CANNES, VENICE, TORONTO, AND THE FESTIVAL OF FEARS.

TO KILL THE ENEMY, SHE MUST CAPTURE HIS HEART... AND BREAK HER OWN.

**LUST CAUTION**

WINNER OF THE GOLDEN LION FOR BEST FILM AT THE 64<sup>th</sup> VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS TODAY**  
ONLY AT SELECTED THEATERS

Distributed by Columbia Pictures Industries Inc.

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

### AT THE CINEMAS

THE

<b>GLORIETTA 1</b>	<b>1 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>2 RENDITION</b>	<b>3 THE UNREST</b>	<b>4 THE GAMEPLAN</b>
<b>GLORIETTA 4</b>	<b>1 THE GAMEPLAN</b>	<b>2 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING</b>	<b>3 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>4 PERUME, THE STORY OF A MURDERER</b>
<b>GREENBELT 1</b>	<b>1 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>2 RENDITION</b>	<b>3 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING</b>	<b>5 FRIGHTFEST</b>
<b>GREENBELT 3</b>	<b>1 RENDITION</b>	<b>2 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING</b>	<b>3 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>6 RENDITION</b>
<b>ALABANG TOWN CENTER</b>	<b>1 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>2 RENDITION</b>	<b>3 THE GAMEPLAN</b>	<b>7 LUST CAUTION</b>
<b>AYALA CENTER CEBU</b>	<b>1 DECEMBER BOYS</b>	<b>2 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>3 EVENING</b>	<b>4 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING</b>
<b>MARKET! MARKET!</b>	<b>1 THE GAMEPLAN</b>	<b>2 LUST CAUTION</b>	<b>3 RENDITION</b>	<b>4 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>
<b>TRINOMA</b>	<b>1 LUST CAUTION</b>	<b>2 BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL</b>	<b>3 THE UNREST</b>	<b>4 THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING</b>
	<b>5 STARDUST</b>	<b>6 RENDITION</b>	<b>7 THE GAMEPLAN</b>	

### AT THE MALLS

CONCIERGE HOTLINE NUMBERS:

Glorietta - 752 7272  
Greenbelt - 757 4853 to 54

Market! Market! - 886 7519

Alabang Town Center - 842 2782, 772 1860

Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

TriNoma - 901 3000

Ayala



Halloween Treat: Dorothy and the Witches of Oz - A Trumpets Musical Theater Performance October 28; 6pm to 8pm; Glorietta Activity Center

glorietta

Trick or Treat at Greenbelt 3 Park October 26 to 28 and 31

GREENBELT

Dole Pumpkin Carving Contest October 28, Town Plaza

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

Clear Product Launch October 27 to 28, Activity Center

ATALA CENTER

Sesame Street Party November 2, Activity Center

MARKET! MARKET!

Repertory Philippines presents Disney's CINDERELLA Kids August - December 2007

For inquiries, pls. call 867-6710 or visit www.repertoryphilippines.com

Ayala MUSEUM

HOLIDAY: Meet Lewis Higgins September 10 to October 28, 2007; Ground Floor

For more info, pls. call 757-7117 loc 21 loc. 14 or email museum\_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org

Sesame Street Party October 28, Activity Center

Tri Noma

### HALLOWEEN FILM FESTIVAL

NOW SHOWING exclusively AT GLORIETTA 4 CINEMAS

**VAMPIRE IN BROOKLYN**  
A vampire from the Caribbean fulfilling a prophecy to return his vampire queen, who turns out to be a Brooklyn girl.  
Screening Schedules: 12:30pm, 5:30pm, 10:30pm  
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 16+

NEXT ATTRACTION: **BEAD SILENCE** AND **THREE MOLES**

**TIMEZONE**  
Time For Fun!

**HALLOWEEN TREATS!**

Pay only P150\* for a P200 NEW or RELOAD POWERCARD!

Valid from October 27 - November 4, 2007 only

Available in all Timezone stores

ALSO avail of our FREE face-painting or glitter tattoo for a minimum load of P300!  
Valid from October 27 - 28, 2007 only.

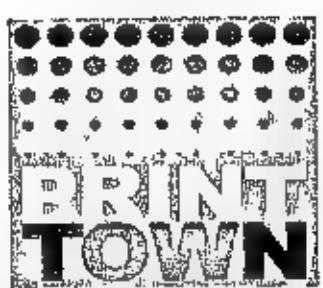
Available at the following Timezone stores: Glorietta 4, Greenbelt 3, Alabang Town Center, TriNoma & Bonifacio High Street

WATCH HALLOWEEN FILM FESTIVAL & GET SPECIAL TREATS FROM **REGAL KING**, **EDZM**, **MCX**, **VIVA**  
Promo Period: October 24 to November 4, 2007  
Screening times: 12:30pm, 5:30pm, 10:30pm  
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 16+

Pay GINZA Price & PAY 10% Extra. Starts 2007.

glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! tri noma

Printing life.



vprinttown.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Vina Morales on love life: Wait and see



By Marlene D. Cruz

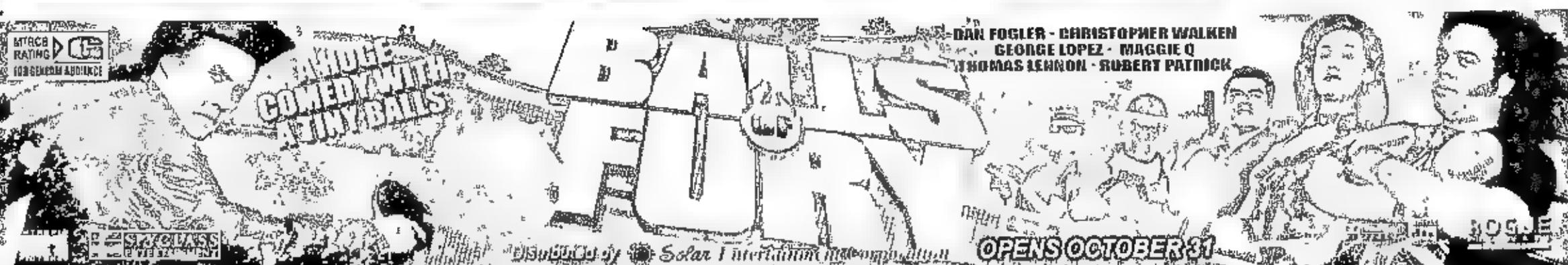
Kasalanang  
walang kapatawaran.  
Paghihiganting  
hanggang kamatayan.



Sino ang biktima? Sino ang may sala?  
NGAYONG GABI,  
sisimulan na ang hanapin ang kasagumin.

PAGKATAPOS NG MARIMAR SA

GMA Telebabad



E-mail: wateringholeshangrila@yahoo.com

Personal: Madamo gud na saamad to

Engel and Ced Loring, Nath Pugales, Pauleen Banusing, the staff of Del Rio Hotel

especially John Norman dela Cruz, and Sarabia Manor Hotel, for an overdose of

Ilonggo hospitality. Iloilo will always be

my second home because of all of you.

Patangga ko gud kamo!

Amoy! Amoy! Amoy! Amoy! Amoy! Amoy!



**ALL TOGETHER NOW.** Former "Philippine Idol" contenders (from left) Apple Chiu, Ken Dingle and Arms Cruz in chorus

JIM GUIAO/PUNZALAN

## Life after 'Idol'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

**T**HREE FINALISTS OF THE singing competition's first season team up to form a vocal group

Among the Top 12, the three were coincidentally booted out one after the other on the show's first season last year on ABC 5.

Arms left on the 8th, Apple on the 7th and Ken on the 6th week.

"It was like a sign from God that we were meant to be together," jests Arms.

Months after the show, the trio, along with other batchmates, would often hang out, watching movies and eating out together.

Soon enough, "Idol" writer Paolo Bustamante thought of putting the trio together in a vocal group called AKA, with Jun Lacanlanta (formerly of Mulatto) as musical director.

The Top 12 contestants always keep in touch, says Apple. "We support each other."

"We watch each other's shows," Arms agrees.

"Quite recently, we visited the 'SOP' set to watch the launch of [fellow 'Idol' finalist] Jan [Nieto]," Ken recounts. "Jan was a big help

when we were rehearsing for our AKA gigs."

In fact, Jan surprised his friends by showing up at AKA's interview with INQUIRER Entertainment at Mr. Rockefeller resto in Greenbelt 2. They share singing assignments with each other, too.

"A recent show in Batangas was arranged by [fellow finalist] Drae Ybarra," Apple relates.

For Ken and Arms whose relatives are far away (Ken's in Australia; Arms' in Zamboanga), their "Idol" batchmates eventually became their surrogate family during and after the competition.

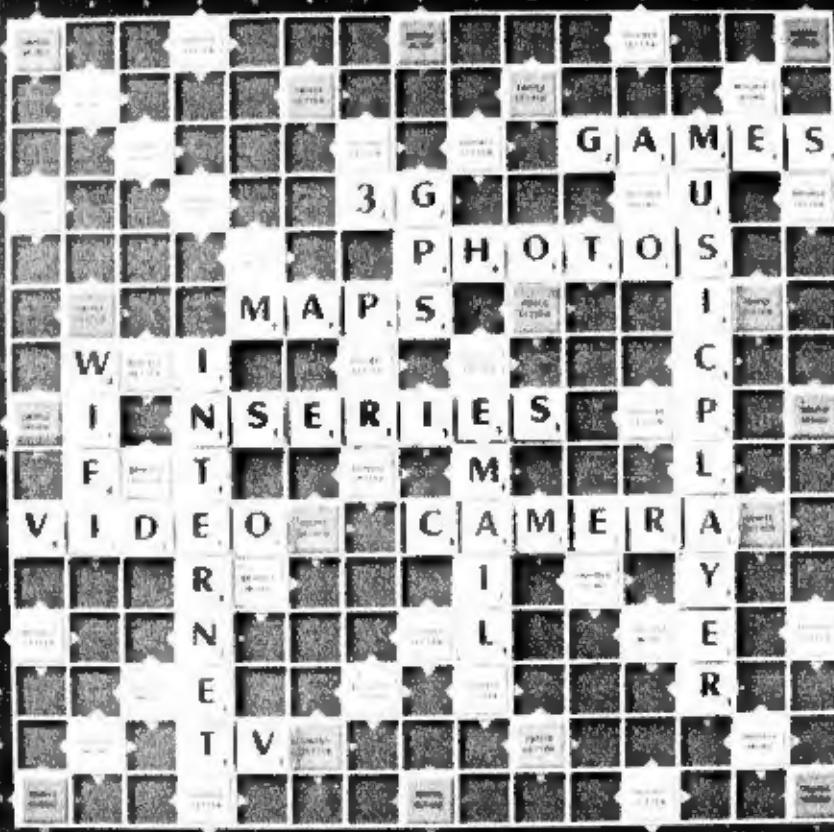
"We were together for nine months, through all the trials. We went through a lot," Arms recounts.

Apple was downed by dengue right before the first performance night; Ken, by throat infection in the heat of the competition.

"It was due to the pressure," Ken explains.

LIFE/G3

**It's not one thing. It's many.**



**NOKIA**  
Nseries

**Nokia Nseries. The All-In-One device.**

# Kantabataan

**NATIONAL FINALISTS**

**Cozmik Euphoria**  
Band Code: COZMIK

**Boracay Republic**  
Band Code: BORACAY

**Corsage**  
Band Code: CORSAGE

**Centerpoint**  
Band Code: CENTER

**Suitcase 101**  
Band Code: SUITCASE

Text KANTA to 2346 for FREE or log on to [www.kantabataan.com.ph](http://www.kantabataan.com.ph) for more info.

© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc.

**It's Time to Rock the Polls!**

Vote for your favorite Kantabataan Finalist bands at puwede ka pang manalo ng Nokia 5300 music phones and as much as 50,000 worth of GCash in the Grand Draw!

**Mechanics:**

- Register by texting KANTAREG <Name, Address> to 2346. Registration is FREE.
- Text <Band Code> to 2346 for FREE to get a list of downloads.
- 1 download = at least 15 votes = at least 15 raffle entries.

**Suportahan at pag-isahin ang boses ng kabataan!**

Promo period is from October 6 to November 10, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4998, Series of 2007. See flyers for details.

Official Partners:

Rock -

**NOKIA**



**Globe**

**M M T A**  
METRO MANILA  
THEATERS ASSOCIATION  
**MOVIE GUIDE**  
NOW SHOWING



1 **CINE EUROPA**

2 **BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL**

3 **RENDITION**

4 **STARDUST / THE SEEKER**

**PREMIERE**

5 **THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING (SNEAK PREVIEW)**



**Cinema 2000 Watermark Makati**

Watermark Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor.

Antonio Arnaiz Paseo del Pilar, Makati City

Tel: 816.4214 / 816.4215

1 **THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING**

2 **RENDITION**

3 **UNREST**

4 **LUST CAUTION (SNEAK PREVIEW)**

**Starmall**

(Mandaluyong) Tel: 7208150

3 **HIGHLANDER - V**

4 **RENDITION**

5 **RENDITION**

**metropolis star**

www.metropolisstar.com.ph

1 **MR. WOODCOCK**

2 **HIGHLANDER - V**

3 **THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING**

4 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

**THEATRES**

1 **KUNG FU FIGHTER**

2 **DECEMBER BOYS**

3 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

**PACIFIC MALL**

**CINEMAGIC**

1 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

2 **BASE**

3 **RESERVED**

4 **RESERVED**

**Filmfest**

**FESTIVAL CINEMA**

(Bacoor) Tel: 850.5751 or 72

1 **RENDITION**

2 **RESIDENT EVIL**

3 **DIRT**

4 **LUST CAUTION (SNEAK PREVIEW)**

5 **BUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL**

6 **THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING**

7 **NO RESERVATION**

8 **KNOCKED UP**

9 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

10 **KUNG FU FIGHTER**

**Blue Wave**

1 **THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING**

2 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

3 **DIRT**

4 **RENDITION**

5 **RESERVED**

**SUPER CINERAMA**

1 **RESERVED**

2 **RESERVED**

3 **RESERVED**

4 **RENDITION**

5 **RENDITION**

**Marketplace**

1 **Rogue Assassin**

2 **CHUCK & LARRY**

3 **RESERVED**

4 **RESERVED**

5 **RESERVED**

**MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE**

**ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE**



[www.robinsonsmovieworld.com](http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com)

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

**GALLERIA**

1 **STARDUST - THX**

1:45 2:40 7:15 10:00

2 **BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL**

12:40 3:00 5:30 7:40 10:00

3 **MANILA PRIDE FEST**

1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

4 **LUST CAUTION**

12:30 3:40 6:50 10:00

5 **RENDITION**

12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

6 **GAMEPLAN**

12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:30

7 **UNREST**

12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

8 **APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT**

1:

9 **RESIDENT EVIL 3**

1:05 3:20 5:35 7:50 10:00

10 **THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising**

12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:30

**JADE CINEMA**

(Ampli City) Tel: (02) 847-5961 to 83

1 **RESIDENT EVIL - 3**

2 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

3 **STARDUST**

4 **RETribution**

**Centre Plaza Cinema**

(Makati City) Tel: (02) 847-7007

1 **I KNOW WHO KILL ME**

2 **APAT DAPAT, DARK APAT**

**SHANG CINEPLEX**

(Quezon City) Tel: (02) 847-5700 to 72

1 **RENDITION**

2 **BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL / STARDUST**

3 **LUST CAUTION (SNEAK PREVIEW)**

**CINEMA 280**

Movie Theatres of the New Millennium

1 **Cinema 2000 Watermark**

(Cebu) Tel: (032) 545-2303

APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

SHUNG FU FIGHTER

RENDITION - 3

**Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall**

(Ortigas) Tel: (02) 4111146

RESERVED

RESERVED

RESERVED

RESERVED

**Cinema 2000 Cinemagix**

(Ortigas) Tel: (02) 948-6771

DON'T LOOK BACK

APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT

KUNG FU FIGHTER

KNOCKED UP

**NOVALICHES**

1 **THE SEEKER: Dark Is Rising**

2 **GAMEPLAN**

**PIONEER**

1 **RENDITION**

12:50 3:20 5:30 8:20

2 **GAMEPLAN**

**STA. ROSA**

1 **THE SEEKER: Dark Is Rising**

2 **NO RESERVATIONS**

3 **SHOOT 'EM UP**

4 **APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT**

5 **RESERVED**

**DASMARINAS**

1 **SHOOT 'EM UP**

2 **NO RESERVATIONS**

3 **THE SEEKER: Dark Is Rising**

4 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

5 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

**IMUS**

1 **BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL**

2 **THE SEEKER: Dark Is Rising**

3 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

4 **HIGHLANDER**

**ANGELES**

1 **RESIDENT EVIL 3**

2 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

3 **RETRIBUTION**

4 **STARDUST**

**STARLAGE**

1 **APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT**

2 **THREE**

3 **KNOCKED UP**

**STARMILLS**

1 **WEDDING DAZE**

2 **STARDUST**

3 **APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT**

**BACOLOD**

1 **RESIDENT EVIL 3**

2 **WEDDING DAZE**

</div

## Donald trumps Jolie and Clooney

WHILE PROMOTING HIS NEW BOOK on TV recently, Donald Trump stirred up a hornet's nest of controversy by dissing screen icons Angelina Jolie and George Clooney.

He dismissed Jolie as a previously spaced-out starlet who hated her father, had a "weird" relationship with her brother and an even more far-out one with Billy Bob Thornton, and yet has successfully transformed herself into an international do-gooder and certified protector of disadvantaged women and children.

Clearly, Trump wasn't sold on the genuineness of Jolie's motives for cleaning up her act and thinking of others instead of herself.

As for Clooney, Trump said the actor's "larger than life" screen image was a complete invention.

He recalled that, when he first saw Clooney in the flesh, he was stunned to see how short and small the "world's sexiest man" really was. Ouch.

What was the point to Trump's double-barreled tirade? At face value, he was doing viewers the supreme service of cutting screen icons down to size, the better for them to avoid being taken for a bogus stellar ride. On the other hand, the resulting controversy should also enable him to sell more copies of his new book. Ah, so ...

Trump is no chump, that's for sure. The big question now is, what will Jolie and Clooney do to get back at him? If they hit back, it would make things hotter—and thus better as far as his book-selling purposes are concerned.

So, their best move is to do—absolutely nothing. That would make the controversy as hot as yesterday's coffee, and the aggrieved stars would end up trumping Trump—for a change.

### The 11th Hour'

Viewers who care for the environment are happy that Leonardo DiCaprio has produced and narrated "The 11th Hour," a full-length documentary on how mankind has ravaged the planet Earth, and what must be done now to save the world.

Trouble is, the film is proving to be difficult to track down. Perhaps because it isn't deemed to be popular viewing fare, it is being moved from theater to theater on different days.

We understand the commercial considerations involved, so we urge concerned viewers to look at the movie's "movable feast" screening schedule in newspapers, and catch it as best they can.

This extra step is OK for people concerned about environmental issues to take—but what about the average viewer? He wouldn't care enough to "chase" the movie all over town, so its important message may not reach him. Now, that's a great pity.

Therefore, we urge the film's local distributor to play it on a regular basis in more theaters. To assure him of good business, we also urge teachers to assign "The 11th Hour" as required viewing fare for their students.

Our movie screens are full of so much fluff and stuff that has little positive impact on us. "The 11th Hour" is definitely more significant and important than most productions, so we trust that our theater owners will give it the regular showcase that it deserves.

## Anak TV relaunches Batang Brodaster

THE ANAK TV GROUP ANNOUNCES THE relaunch of "Batang Brodaster," which is soliciting video materials written, directed and shot by youths 18-years-old and below using advanced gadgets or simple multimedia cell phones.

Entries should be original one to give minute video materials with themes ranging from serious social issues like the environment or poverty to playful topics about their pastimes, pets and profiles of their favorite persons.

Winning entries will get the chance to be aired on TV and receive gifts from sponsors.

Those interested to join may visit the Southeast Asian Foundation for Children and Television website at [www.anaktvweb.com](http://www.anaktvweb.com).

Deadline for submission of entries is on Nov. 29.

### 'Sesame' day

Viva Video invites kids to "Play With Me



## Why John Ford Coley loves sad songs

By Pocholo Concepcion

**T**HREE WERE TIMES BETWEEN 1976 TO '79 WHEN THE Texas-born, pop-rock duo England Dan & John Ford Coley had four of their songs on top of the Billboard chart.

Most Pinoy, regardless of their musical tastes, must have heard these songs on radio: "I'd Really Love to See You Tonight," "Sad to Belong," "We'll Never Have to Say Goodbye Again" and "Love is the Answer."

Initially dismissed as a one-hit wonder, the duo actually had four Top 10s and two Top 20s; was nominated for a Grammy; received triple-platinum and gold records; and released eight albums.

After breaking up in 1981, Coley wrote music for film and TV. He also enjoyed a brief acting stint in the movies. In 1996, he went back to touring and continues to do so, which is why he was in Manila recently for a series of shows—actually his fifth visit ... and counting.

### Are you writing new songs?

I'm writing some, but I haven't written much recently because I've been gone (on the road) so much, and the kids always want to play tennis.

### Can you recall memorable times with Dan?

Dan Seals and I went to high school together, played in the same band, and started England Dan and John Ford Coley in 1971. I wrote a book called "Backstage Pass" but it's not about sex, drugs and rock n roll—more of the funny stuff that happened while we were touring.

## Life after 'Idol'

From page G1

They had no choice but to turn to each other for solace, says Arms.

They insist that they're going through "mixed emotions"—now that "Idol" is moving to GMA 7 on its second season.

Ken clarifies: "But we are mostly happy and excited for the next batch. We know that they'll get good exposure on GMA 7. We're looking forward to their auditions so that we can relive our own experiences."

### Any tips for prospective "Idol" aspirants?

"I learned to stay true to myself and my music," Ken says. "And to smile through criticism."

"You really have to be fit because the contest is a test of endurance. You have to be ready physically, emotionally, spiritually," says Apple.

"I also advise contestants not to read blogs. Avoid negativity because this can take your focus away from your performance," adds Ken.

One night after a show, this lady walked up to me, holding a copy of one of our albums, took me by the hand and said, "My fiancee and I fell in love with your song 'Nights are Forever without You.' We danced to it, he proposed while it was playing, we did everything to that song..." I just said, "Thank you." But then that same woman looked at me and, in a voice that I didn't recognize would come from her, said, "And then he left me. I've hated your song ever since."

One of my most memorable moments by the way occurred right here in Manila. Two years ago, we've just come from a tour of the presidential palace and were sitting in a restaurant in Makati, having dinner. All of a sudden, I heard the loudest explosion I've ever heard in my life. It was the bombs that went off on Valentine's Day and I was about 100 yards away. We played at Hard Rock Café that night.

### How do you fight boredom when on tour?

Every now and then, I take my kids with me. I sit in a hotel, watch TV and manage to have a good time, too. But I also take the kids out. I'm a history nut, so I go around and find out what things happened in a particular area. I happen to know a lot of Philippine history from World War II.

### What was your greatest fulfillment in the group?

We've had our share of success and earned good money. But that's the past and you can't bring it back. I like looking at where I am now and what I'm gonna do in the future. That way, it's exciting for me, it's fun, I still enjoy meeting different people and hearing about their experiences.

### What are your musical influences?

I was trained in classical piano and listened to Bach and Beethoven, and also lots of church hymns, Beach Boys, Buffalo Springfield, flamenco ... I just soaked it all up. If a song's got a great melody, I jump on it. But if I don't like it, I don't like it.

### What don't you like?

I don't like rap. I tend to have a firm opinion about music and my attitude is this: if you like it, you're right. If you absolutely hate it, you're right, too. It's a value judgment.

### Whatever happened to Dan?

Dan stays with his brother Jimmy Seals (of Seals & Crofts). Right now, Dan's got lymphoma. I get to talk to his manager and find out how he's doing.

### What caused the breakup?

It was time to move on. We were beginning to move in different directions musically. Dan wanted to go in a country-folk type and I didn't. When "Love is the Answer" came out, we thought, okay, this was the time we'd quit while we're on top.

### But aren't you into country music now?

No, not so much. I played some country and I love Vince Gill. But I couldn't do what he does. I also love Josh Groban, but if somebody were to ask me to sing what he does, I won't be able to. Even if they held a knife to my throat and say, "We're gonna kill you if you don't," I still wouldn't do it.

### What has the music business taught you?

I don't have much regard for the record industry because there were a lot of talented people who were left behind. And I don't like some of the choices they've made and what they've turned the industry into. There's no passion, it's so predictable now.

### Are you saying that '70s music was much better?

For me, yes.

### Which do you think were the best written songs of that period?

"Can We Still Be Friends" by Todd Rundgren; "The End of the Innocence" by Don Henley; and a sad song by Bonnie Raitt.

### Why do you like sad songs?

I don't know, maybe because I'm Irish. I have a lot of Irish blood.

MTRCB GENERAL AUDIENCE ALL AGES ADMITTED  
**2ND WEEK**  
**WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM... COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!**



## Anak TV relaunches Batang Brodaster

THE ANAK TV GROUP ANNOUNCES THE relaunch of "Batang Brodaster," which is soliciting video materials written, directed and shot by youths 18-years-old and below using advanced gadgets or simple multimedia cell phones.

Entries should be original one to give minute video materials with themes ranging from serious social issues like the environment or poverty to playful topics about their pastimes, pets and profiles of their favorite persons.

Winning entries will get the chance to be aired on TV and receive gifts from sponsors.

Those interested to join may visit the Southeast Asian Foundation for Children and Television website at [www.anaktvweb.com](http://www.anaktvweb.com).

Deadline for submission of entries is on Nov. 29.

### 'Sesame' day

Viva Video invites kids to "Play With Me



Sesame," a day of learning activities for children featuring Sesame Street characters Elmo, Cookie Monster and Bert and Ernie.

Every purchase of two Sesame Street VCDs or one DVD at any Viva Video outlet entitles buyers to one ticket to the event. Each ticket is good for one child and one guardian.

The event kicks off at the Market Market on Nov. 3 and Glorietta on Nov. 4.

### Nick's Halloween

Nickelodeon celebrates Halloween with "Mischief Madness" at the Music Hall of the SM Mall of Asia on Oct. 31, 3 to 9 p.m.

A haunted school, fun and games, costume contest and Nick characters Dora The Explorer, SpongeBob SquarePants and Patrick Star complete the event.

For tickets, visit participating Toy Kingdom and Toy Express stores and purchase a minimum of P1,000 worth of goods until Oct. 31.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

## JOB Market

YOUR CONNECTION TO BETTER PEOPLE, BETTER JOBS

# Safe, sound and southbound.

On the way to the South for a roadtrip? Prepare for a safe, reliable and enjoyable journey all the way to your destination. With a little help from Caltex, the Philippine National Construction Corporation (PNCC) and its partners, going south will now be more secure, convenient and fun for you and your family.

Oil industry leader Caltex and PNCC will travel with you through Ka-Road Trip Mo sa Kaligtasan, a project



that will provide travelers going through the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) an ideal journey. Intended as a

year-long program, Ka-Road Trip will surely be a traveler's best friend on and off the road as it covers motorist

assistance, public awareness on road safety and a Caltex pitstop activation that will surely be a relief for weary travelers.

As you travel southbound this long holiday period, you will notice that being safe doesn't have to be boring. You can have fun while getting the point that safety is important. You will find highway safety messages along the SLEX route such as "Wala pong finish line sa dulo. Drive Safely."



Or how about the line, "Kung gusto magkarera, bumili ka ng kabayol. Drive Safely, kalibigan." PNCC and Caltex, both proponents of safety on and off the road, are looking forward to a trouble-free, accident-free road trip for motorists.

Ka-Road Trip 2007 will kick off with a Pre-Departure campaign on October 21 to 26, focusing on the need to prepare and check the maintenance and safety of vehicles to be used for the road trip ahead. Selected Caltex stations in Metro Manila and nearby provinces will be visibly campaigning and offering their FREE Car Maintenance Check Up. Here's a laundry list of the items that you, as a responsible driver, should check before going on your journey:

[www.caltexwithtechron.com](http://www.caltexwithtechron.com)

## What Drives You

### Having a safe and secure roadtrip

Buckle up and get ready to enjoy the road trip this coming holiday season. Caltex and the PNCC come together to ensure that you reach your destination safely through their Motorist Assistance Program called "Ka-Road Trip Mo sa Kaligtasan". You can be sure to have your friendly Red Cross volunteers and the EA Philippines' towing assistance service with their reliable mechanics on duty. And if you happen to pass by a Caltex station at SLEX, your favorite Star Mart convenience store is there to give you a hassle-free pitstop for your favorite goodies and, if you're lucky, some freebies!

You must check for your car's:

FLUID LEVELS	PARTS FUNCTION
• engine oil	• head lights
• coolant reservoir	• brake lights
• brake fluid	• tail lights
• transmission fluid	• signal lights
• battery water, if available	• hazard/warning lights
• power steering fluid, if available	• backup lights
	• horns
	• tire air pressure
	• spare tire pressure, you can never be too sure of any incidents
	• tool kit check, these better be complete and better be working
	• early warning device check

These safety checks can be availed at the following Caltex service stations:

And for the peak travel period, in time for the observance of All Saints' Day from late October to early November, when heavy traffic with the influx of motor vehicles is expected, travelers who intend to hit SLEX on October 31 to November 4 will get a shot at a safe and fun-filled journey through a series of travel time safety checks that will surely help them on the long drive ahead.

### Travel Time Safety Services

Caltex and PNCC will also provide free emergency assistance during peak hours, particularly on October 27 to November 4. The two companies will coordinate with other groups such as the Philippine National Red Cross, Metrowatch and EA Philippines in setting up service booths and kiosks where medical, towing and mechanical assistance will be provided for stranded travelers.



### Recreational Activities

Ka-Road Trip is made even more special by the Caltex Pitstop recreation booths at the SLEX Caltex stations. Caltex will set up vendor kiosks and booths wherein customers can avail of special offers, freebies and prizes from the Star Mart convenience stores. To top it all off, resting motorists will also get to participate in fun games, some of which are related to the Caltex-NBA Caravan promo. And for a limited period, selected toll booth tellers will be giving away coupons that will entitle the motorist to some freebies from the nearby SLEX Caltex stations.

Also, QTV will also be setting up their own 'Bantay Biyahe' booths at the SLEX Caltex stations to monitor the traffic situation and lend assistance to motorists plying the route.

With Caltex, PNCC and your travel plans all set, it's sure to be one stress-free All Saints' Day break. Avail of the free pre-departure services now and get ready to go southbound safe and sound in no time.

What Drives You



PHILIPPINE NATIONAL  
CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

